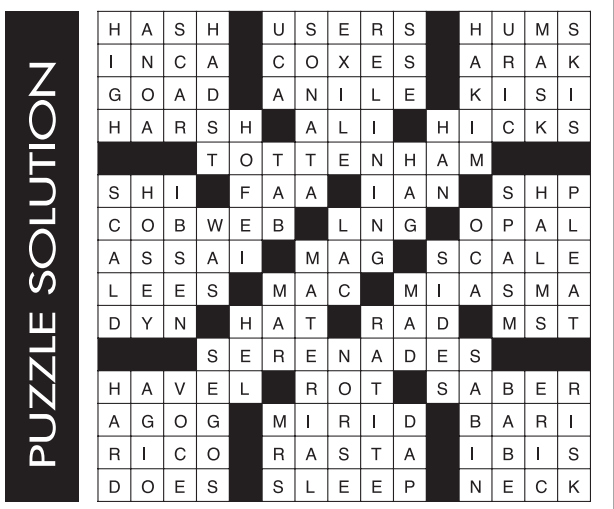


CLUES ACROSS

- 1. Chop up
5. Ones who utilize
10. Sings with closed lips
14. South American hummingbird
15. Serves as a coxswain
16. Liquor distilled from coconut or rice
17. Spur
18. Senile
19. Tanzanian people
20. Cruel
22. Boxing's "GOAT"
23. Yokels
24. London soccer team
27. Chinese chess piece
30. Supervises flying
31. 007's creator
32. Shaft horsepower (abbr.)
35. A spider makes one
37. Liquefied natural gas
38. Opaque gem
39. Brazilian palm
40. Periodical (slang)
41. You might step on one
42. Marvin and Horsley are two
43. Partner to cheese
44. Unpleasant smell
45. Field force unit (abbr.)
46. Fashion accessory
47. Cool!
48. Time zone
49. Songs to one's lover
52. German river
55. Go bad
56. Sword
60. Very eager
61. Leaf bug
63. Italian seaport
64. Napoleon Dynamite's uncle
65. Member of Jamaican religion
66. Large wading bird
67. Carries out
68. Eternal rest
69. It holds up your headwords

CLUES DOWN

- 1. Not low
2. Small water buffalo
3. A mark left behind
4. Archaic form of have
5. Fiddler crabs
6. Popular Hyundai sedan
7. Depart
8. Making over
9. Midway between south and southeast
10. Arabic masculine name
11. Type of acid
12. Popular 1980s Cher film
13. Outdoor enthusiasts' tools
21. Chinese city
23. "Star Wars" character Solo
25. The bill in a restaurant
26. Old, ugly witch
27. Burn with a hot liquid
28. To claim or demand
29. "A Doll's House" playwright
32. Involuntary muscular contraction
33. Pea stems (British)
34. Double or multiple fold
36. No longer is
37. Lakers' crosstown rivals (abbr.)
38. S. American plant cultivated in Peru
40. Cloth or fabric
41. Flanks
43. Disfigure
44. Angry
46. Baltic coast peninsula
47. Large, flightless birds
49. Plants of the lily family
50. Medieval Norwegian language
51. Polio vaccine developer
52. Not soft
53. Exchange rate
54. Voice (Italian)
57. Baseball's Ruth
58. Famed guitarist Clapton
59. Take a chance
61. Wife
62. Elaborate handshake



FOOTBALL

Continued from Page 1

the district's Nov. 9 meeting, unanimous action was taken to move Plainsmen football from Class A to 8-Player for the 2023-2024 school year due to "current team numbers," according to minutes from the meeting.

At one point during McDermott's presentation, Wurth presented the findings of a survey he had recently conducted among Redhawk football players in grades 7th through 12th. Wurth asked the players - through an electronic, anonymous survey - to answer the question, "How do you want to see Redhawk football move forward?"

Of the 32 responses Wurth received, 14 indicated they would 'strongly prefer' staying 11-Player; one indicated they would 'strongly prefer' moving to 8-Player; six indicated they would 'prefer' 11-Player; eight indicated they would 'prefer' 8-Player; two indicated they had no preference; one typed the response, "I would rather do 11 man but I think we should do 8 man."

Public discussion

During the regular board meeting that followed the organizational meeting, six members of the public - both in-person and via written comments - provided their perspective on the possibility of moving to 8-Player.

Football coach, Redhawk alum, and parent Nathan Upham, North Tama coach, teacher, and parent Matt Cibula, Redhawk football player Ryan Hosek (a junior), and North Tama parent Anita Dostal each provided public comments to the board. North Tama coach and parent Luke Dvorak and North Tama parent Ashley Dvorak submitted their comments by email which Superintendent David Hill read aloud.

While Upham, Dostal, and the Dvoraks all leaned in favor or strongly in favor of moving to 8-Player for next season - many citing the low numbers of youth and junior high football players coming up through the ranks and the issues of both safety of the players and game cancellations - Cibula felt the move would be better executed over the next several years in order to allow next season's junior and senior football players the

opportunity to finish out their careers at 11-Player.

Hosek spoke in favor of remaining at 11-Player, stating that despite being one of the smallest schools in Class A, North Tama's squad size (30) is still bigger than many of the other 11-Player teams.

Board discussion

Over the course of the board's discussion - which immediately followed public comment - it became clear that most board members were leaning toward keeping varsity in Class A for the foreseeable future while directing athletic director Wurth to begin the process of moving junior varsity to 8-Player next season.

"I still believe we are an 11-man football team," board president Rod Zobel - who played high school football for Benton Community - said.

Board member David Calderwood, a Redhawk football alum, indicated he felt a transition year - a "blend" of 8-Player for junior varsity and staying at Class A for varsity - might be best.

Board members repeatedly asked Coach Wurth for his thoughts as well as what the numbers were coming down the line. Wurth said while the team would be graduating seven players this year, it would potentially be bringing up nine new players.

Board member Haley Blaine who is the mother of a Redhawk youth football player and the aunt of starting quarterback Kolt Knaack, reiterated much of what Anita Dostal said during the public comments segment - numbers coming up the ranks are small. Blaine said while she understands students, in general, have gone through a lot of change and upheaval the last several years due to the pandemic, it's "always going to be someone's senior year" when a change is made.

Board member David Boldt asked Supt. Hill how a transition would take place if junior varsity begins the transition while keeping varsity in Class A to which Hill responded that adaptations to the fields - portable goal posts, for example - were possible.

Board member Doug Dvorak admitted he had been "sold" on the move to 8-Player following McDermott's presentation earlier in the month at the community meeting, but after talking to parents, grandparents, and

students he was now "waver-ing" a bit.

"I know I'm 20 miles out in the sticks - I don't hear all the talk of the town," Dvorak said to Wurth. "Can we make [11-Player] work for two more years and bring junior high into the process with 8-Man?" Wurth indicated he felt that was definitely a possibility.

When asked by Dvorak what his thoughts were on the idea of switching to 8-Player, Wurth said he wanted to keep his opinion out of the discussion, replying, in part: "This decision is bigger than one person's opinion, I didn't come here for just 11-man football. ... I came for the small school feel and opportunity to be a head coach."

Board member Val Bradley stated she was not convinced about making the switch yet, citing the survey Wurth had conducted of his players. She asked Wurth if transitioning junior varsity to 8-Player would require more coaches to which Wurth replied that another paid coach would be helpful in that scenario.

The decision was made by the board to take no action on the matter that night. President Zobel said he would contact all board members the first week in December to determine if a special meeting before the Dec. 15 deadline was necessary to move varsity to 8-Player.

Supt. Hill reiterated it would be best practice by the board to provide general direction to Wurth if they desired a blend/transition to 8-Player at the junior varsity level next season.

Bond referendum update

Later in the regular meeting, Supt. Hill provided the board with an update on the facilities improvement bond referendum planned for March of 2023. Hill presented the petition that must be signed by at least 110 eligible voters in the North Tama district in order for a special election to take place.

The petition states, "We, the undersigned, are eligible electors, reside within the School District and petition the Board of Directors of the School District to call a special election to submit to the voters of the School District the following proposition the purpose of which cannot be accomplished within the limit of one and one-quarter percent of the assessed value of the taxable prop-

erty within the School District."

The proposition states: "Shall the Board of Directors of North Tama County Community School District ... be authorized to contract indebtedness and issue General Obligation Bonds in an amount not to exceed \$14,250,000 to be used together with sales tax bond proceeds to provide funds to build, furnish, and equip a new high school addition, including related remodeling and improvements; to remodel, repair, furnish, and equip the existing educational facilities; and to improve the site?"

The \$14.25 million constitutes phase one of the district's planned facility upgrades.

In order to replace the 1917 building which mostly houses the high school, a new, two-story 18,000 sq. foot high school addition would be built during phase one on land directly adjacent to the campus along US 63 - land which currently has a rental home occupying part of it and would be demolished.

The addition would be primarily classrooms and collaborative spaces and would allow the district to vacate the 1917 core building during phase two.

Phase one would also include critical upgrades to the remainder of the district's buildings including secure entry upgrades, HVAC and electrical upgrades, an athletic area reconfiguration to provide accessible routes around the gym, a weight room expansion, and paving of the existing parking lot.

Phase two would take place two to four years after the initial bond referendum.

The petition to call for a special election must be filed with the Tama County Auditor's Office no later than January 20. The date of the special election would be March 7, 2023.

In a recent Facebook post regarding the planned bond referendum, the district wrote, "The school district has been a responsible steward of taxpayer dollars and has looked for ways to reduce the impact on taxpayers as we maintain our facilities. However, we are at a point at which we cannot delay addressing our facility needs any longer."

A website has been set up to answer frequently asked questions about the bond referendum: https://www.northtama-planning.org.

Classifieds

35 Sale Real Estate
3500 - Realtors
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Marshalltown, IA 50158
NEW HORIZONS REALTY 752-9545
Bob Grimes 750-7726

Classifieds...
Casting Reel Deals

New Listing!!
411 State St. Dysart
Nice 3 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath home located close to city pool and schools. 24 x 30 garage! New solar panels and electric system in August 2022 to reduce your electric bills! Vinyl siding, main floor laundry, nice corner lot.
ONLY \$158,000!!!

New Listing!!
432 4th St Clutier
Very nice & well cared for 2 bedroom, 1 3/4 bath ranch home. Large living room, formal dining room, full basement with built in storage shelves and a 2 stall attached garage. Includes stove, new frig, new dishwasher, new washer & dryer, microwave & new disposal. All in move-in condition!!
Only \$92,500

New Listing!!
608 Blaine St. Dysart
Very nice 1 1/2 bath home on the edge of town. Large backyard, beautiful sun-room, main floor laundry, 2 stall attached garage, new roof in 2021, large patio & a nice storage building with an overhead door.
MOVE-IN CONDITION!! ONLY \$209,500!!

New Listing!
803 2nd St. Traer
Beautiful, remodeled & updated home. Many updates, including new kitchen, new carpeting & flooring, new roof, sheeting, soffit, fascia & gutters. All within the last year!! Hardwood floors & original woodwork. A must see!!
SALE PENDING

Benton County Farmland
82.86 M/I Acres, 65.81 Acres
in CRP with the balance in Timber.
CSR-2 67 on cropland. Includes Cedar River access & river frontage. 3.2% gross return on list price. Located on the North edge of Vinton.
Lots of wildlife!
Price Reduced \$528,000 \$498,000

NEW LISTING
1312 Clark St Dysart
Custom built one story 3 bedroom home designed similar to Frank Lloyd Wright homes. Large living room, family/sun room. Updates include: new carpeting throughout, new kitchen, new garage stalls and a car port. A unique cut out barn with four overhead doors. One insulated room, space for storage, tools, crafts etc. Landscaped yard.
PRICE REDUCED \$179,500 to \$165,000

SOLD - Benton Co Farmland - SOLD
171.8 A m/I, Kane Township, CSR-2 83.9, 154 A tillable, Available for 2021., Mostly Kenyon, Tama, Dinsdale, Colo/Ely Soils

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