

Principal gets a little assistance

Written by MARK JAEGER

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School Board hires two part-time deans to help during most hectic periods

Even though the Northern Ozaukee School Board hoped to save money by hiring Jeff Sauer as the principal of both the high school and middle school this year, officials were concerned they were stretching the administrator a bit too thin.

That situation was remedied Monday, when the board designated two part-time dean of students.

Ozaukee Elementary School physical-education teacher Charles Schwartz and Ozaukee Middle School math teacher Joseph Hastreiter were given part-time dean duties, primarily to assist with student discipline before and after school and during lunch periods.

“The fact is, I cannot be in two places at one time. I am constantly on the run, and have found I need to spend most of my time at the high school,” Sauer told the board.

He said the positions will also provide parents and staff members a ready contact if issues arise that need immediate attention.

Because the elementary-school day starts later than the high-school day, Schwartz will be able to cover early morning administrative duties.

Hastreiter will handle the duties during the lunch hour and after school.

“These are the times things tend to get a little crazy,” Sauer said.

Both of the men are in the process of completing their administrative certifications.

“As a principal, one of my primary professional objectives is to grow the leadership potential of individuals within my charge. I believe both of these professionals have great potential and I would like to provide them an opportunity to develop,” Sauer said in a memo on the appointments.

For the added morning duties, Schwartz will be paid \$600 a trimester, or \$1,800 for the school year.

Hastreiter will be paid \$400 for having to give up his prep time and extending his work day for after-school responsibilities.

The duties did not come as a surprise to board members, who unanimously approved creating both positions.

“When we combined the high-school and middle-school principal position, this was something we were anticipating,” said board member Tom Hoffmann.

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The board also finalized individual contracts with nine new staff members who are already on the job.

That roster includes: Linda Wavrunek, librarian and media specialist; Candace Ladwig, special-education teacher; Andrea Macejkovic, part-time Spanish teacher; Joel Hartline, part-time English teacher; Melissa Harms, band teacher; Eric Meinnert, high-school science teacher; Amanda Culver, elementary art teacher; Andrea Kober and Lisa Neuman-Murre, both paraprofessionals.

Also in the personnel moves, the board approved hiring Spanish teacher Andrea Macejkovic to work with a fifth-grade student who enrolled in the district this fall and speaks virtually no English.

She will work with the student two hours a day, four days a week, at the going hourly rate for a paraprofessional. The assignment will cost the district approximately \$5,500.

Sauer said the position could put the district in a favorable light with similar families.

“It is a sound move. We may be able to attract more Spanish-speaking students to the district,” he said. “We say we value diversity and this is an opportunity to follow that.”