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Local & Bistate

May 21, 2013

Vigo schools' medical claims down 4 percent

Sue Loughlin

The Tribune-Star

TERRE HAUTE — The Vigo County School Corp.'s medical claims were about \$13 million over the last 12 months, down 4 percent from the prior year, said Diane Titchenell, an Anthem account manager that works with the school district.

She attributed the decrease to the district's use of a wellness clinic. "It really has worked well," she told School Board members during a meeting Monday.

The medical claim trend is about a 13 to 14 percent increase in claims, she said.

VCSC lab and prescription costs are down as well, which again is attributed to use of the clinic, she said.

The Wellness for Life Center opened about 2 1/2 years ago. It serves school district employees and their family members who are covered by the district's health insurance plan.

In other matters, the board approved textbook fees for 2013-14, with increases at the elementary level and decreases at the middle school level:

- Kindergarten half-day — \$81, up from \$75.
- Kindergarten, full day — \$103, up from \$97.
- Grades 1-5 — \$128, up from \$121.
- grade 6 — \$121, down from \$129.
- Grades 7-8 — \$124, down from \$134.

The board also approved a school calendar for 2014-15. The first teacher day would be Monday, Aug. 11, and the first student day Tuesday, Aug. 12.

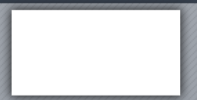
There would be a full week off at Thanksgiving and two weeks over the Christmas holidays.

The calendar includes three snow days: March 27, April 6 and May 22. Students would be off those days unless they need to make up snow days.

The last teacher day would be June 3, a Wednesday.

The board agreed to donate two out-of-service buses to the Terre Haute Boys and Girls Club.

Representatives of the Taxpayers Association of Vigo County presented winners for the annual Taxation and Government Contest: Alex Farmer, first place; Tim Smith, second place and Calvin Blank, third place. All three were from North, and North Vigo was the winning school.



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