



Cerro Gordo and Bement School Boards meet again to discuss future sports cooperation with their Junior High Sports. Christy Jankowski photo

## Cerro Gordo, Bement School Boards Meet to Discuss Junior High Sports Co-op

By CHRISTY JANKOWSKI  
Staff Writer

Thursday, January 24 in the high school library in Bement both Cerro Gordo and Bement School Boards met to discuss their concerns and the future of adding more sports to their cooperative agreements. Currently they have all high school sports together after Volleyball was added around a month ago.

Bement listed their concerns in a page long document with communication, transportation, supervision, uniforms, and more.

The main point was communication. The document states, "Bus time changes--the administration and AD often have no knowledge when bus times change - we find out from our Bement students (they have received texts from their coaches). Parents will call the office for clarification

and it makes us look like we don't have a clue about our sports. We get to the point where we say, "call Cerro Gordo they are the host school and we haven't been notified."

Bement expressed many of their concerns included supervision because of the time difference as to when Bement and Cerro Gordo let out of school.

Cerro Gordo dismisses at 2:58 p.m. and Bement at 3:15 p.m., so occasionally there will be lag time for the students. A majority of their concerns arose after working through some kinks with the high school cooperation.

Board Member Janice Forgeson stated, "It's one thing for a Senior to go over to Casey's and kill time

waiting for a bus, but I sure as heck don't want an eleven year old to do that."

The other concerns were of transportation. Multiple times Bement board members expressed that Bement

students had to find rides home as there was no bus.

Board Member Denise Strack expressed her concerns about her daughter with softball, "A lot of times (Continued to Page 2)

## Electoral Board concerns discussed during Cerro Gordo Village Board meeting

By CHRISTY JANKOWSKI  
Staff Writer

While the Cerro Gordo Village Board and Electoral Board are separate, they overlap in ways according to the State's statute.

According to the statute the Village President, Clerk, and longest standing trustee are automatically on the Electoral board.

Since Trustee Tim Allen filed an objection against the candidate, Tom Hyde, Trustee Mike Martin was appointed.

Village Clerk Tina McCarty recused herself because she was called as a witness by Hyde's attorney, but there is no recusal provision according to the statute (Continued to Page 2)

## District 305 teachers, staff participate in ALICE training

By ROGER W. BONHAM  
Staff Writer

District 305 administrators, teachers, and support staff joined local law enforcement officials to participate in ALICE (Alert, Lockdown, Inform, Counter, Evacuate) Training on Monday, January 7.

The program offers training in how to react to potential threats in schools.

High school principal Steffanie Seegmiller talked about the program during the Wednesday, January 16, school board meeting.

Principal Seegmiller received many positive comments from faculty who felt "empowered and prepared" after participating in the training.

High school assistant principal Jared Vanausdoll and area police officers attended a training session prior to presenting the program to the school faculty. Vanausdoll helped plan the January 7 session.

He said many schools have already adopted the program.

"We are catching up," he said.

Arthur Grade School principal Sage Hale said it was a good experience. The program offered training in how to handle many scenarios, she explained.

"Jared and the officers did a great job."

Seegmiller said they spent over two hours working through specific scenarios at the high school.

"We plan to bring the information to our parents and then to our students within the next month."

Similar meetings for parents will be held in Atwood and Lovington, she added.

Also Wednesday, the school board hired Jordan Morris to teach junior high math beginning next school year (2019-2020) at Lovington Grade School.

District Superintendent Kenny Schwengel reported

he was contacted by Future Green Energy Consortium, a business that deals in selling and setting up solar energy systems.

Superintendent Schwengel said he would put the offer on the agenda for next month's meeting.

"You are not obligated to go solar; this is just an option, and you have time to discuss it."

He also plans to set up a review of pay for substitute teachers working in the district.

"We are at \$85 per day now; most other schools pay \$90 or more," he said.

Work on the portions of the flat roof at the high school remains incomplete.

"We owe the contractor \$28,000 and we won't pay it until the work is finished and the warranty is in place," Schwengel said.

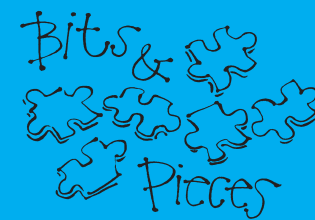
It is only January, but the list of summer projects is growing. Work projects include finishing the high school roof over the gym foyer and boiler room, remodeling the restrooms at Arthur Grade School, and upgrading the baseball diamond at (Continued to Page 9)



Two students at Bement High School have been named Illinois State Scholars for the 2018 - 2019 school year. Those students are Ryan Stoerger and Taylor Wright. The Illinois State Scholar Program recognizes students attending approved high schools (typically, Illinois public high schools) for outstanding academic achievement. Approximately the top ten percent of graduates from approved high schools are announced as State Scholars each year. Photo Kent A. Stock



ALAH ILLINOIS STATE SCHOLARS. Six students from the Arthur Lovington Atwood Hammond High School Class of 2019 have been recognized as State Scholars by the Illinois Student Assistance Commission based on their outstanding academic achievements. The students are (l-r) Paul Brodnansky, Kara Yoder, Katelynn Gingerich, Makenna Green, Marissa Herschberger, and Andrea Witbeck. Submitted photo



### ALAH Pageant seeks contestants

We are currently looking for a few more contestants for the 2019 Little Miss A.L.A.H. Pageant!

It is open to girls ages 5 to 7 years old that live in the ALAH school district.

Please contact Britney Kirby (217)372-4910, if you are interested in putting your daughter in this year's pageant.

Deadline is February 2!

### Ground Hog Day Breakfast

Cerro Gordo Fire & Rescue Annual Ground Hog Day Breakfast will be held on Saturday, February 2, 2019 from 6:00-10:30 a.m. at the firehouse located at 210 W. South St. in Cerro Gordo.

All you can eat pancakes, sausage, biscuits & gravy will be served

Prices: Adults-\$7.00; Children (5-11) \$4.00; children under 5-free

There will also be a 50/50 Raffle drawing.

### Trivia Night coming back to Bement

Looking for something to do? Bement Middle School is hosting their 5th Annual Trivia Night on Saturday, February 23 at the Albert Parker Post #620 American Legion as a school fundraiser. Please consider putting together a team of up to eight people for a night that is sure to be a good time!

The cost per team is \$80. Make checks payable to Bement Middle School.

Due to space constraints, we have a 14 team limit, so make sure to sign up and reserve your space ASAP!

Doors will open at 6 p.m., and the contest will begin promptly at 6:30 p.m. The team with the most correct answers after ten rounds will receive a \$200 cash prize. The second place team will receive their entry fee back.

Teams are welcome to bring treats/food and there will be some complimentary snacks available as well. The cash bar will be open during the event. NO OUTSIDE DRINKS ARE PERMITTED.

In addition to the trivia contest, there will also be a 50/50 raffle and some silent auction items. For any questions about the event or to register, please email Andrew Brown at abrown@bement.k12.il.us, (217)412-6934 or Brittany Taylor at btaylor@bement.k12.il.us, or call the school at (217)678-4200. Please join us for this fun night!

