Falls City School District Utility Bill Soars in February

(KTNC) -- Many people have seen their utility bills soar as temperatures have dropped this winter. That also applies to the Falls City School District.

Superintendent Tim Heckenlively described the most recent bill from Falls City Utilities as "a shocker" and "as high as it has ever been."

The District 56 utility bill last month was just over \$50,000, which Heckenlively says can strain a school district's budget.

This year has been a departure from the last couple of years, which have seen relatively mild winters. The district's utility bill over the same time frame last year was \$33,000 and it was \$26,000 two years ago.

In action items Monday, the Falls City School Board approved the project list for this summer. Maintenance projects include: updated electrical panels in the kitchens at North and South Schools, new doors at all four buildings, classroom doors and locks on the second floor at the Middle School, a turf maintenance program at Thomas Memorial Field, expanding concrete at the High School parking lot, and roof maintenance at the High School and North School.

The board also approved the calendar for the next school year. The first day of class will be on Thursday, August 14, graduation will be on May 17, and the final day of class is May 21, 2015. The board also approved a change to this year's schedule. There will be no school in Falls City on Thursday due to the State Basketball Tournament. The day will be made up on April 21, which is Easter Monday.

Many Signals Communications