

Plans for Possible Hiawatha School Building Reviewed

(KNZA)-The Hiawatha Board of Education Monday evening received conceptual drawings and cost estimates for a possible new career and technical education building.

Tevis Architects of Topeka prepared two drawings for the board's review of a proposed around 36,000-square-foot building that would be constructed between the middle school and high school.

The building would house shop areas, a computer lab, classrooms and a gymnasium that could serve as a storm shelter.

The total probable cost of the project was estimated at nearly \$6.2 million—including architectural and engineering fees

A bond issue would be needed to fund the project. The bonds for the middle school are to paid off in 2018 and the board is considering extending the current bond and interest tax levy to fund the project.

Discussion is currently in the preliminary stage and no decisions have been made. Board members say they will need more information before that happens.

In other business, the board accepted the lone bid from Brown Insurance of Hiawatha to provide the district's insurance coverage for 2013-2014 at a total cost of \$165,581. That's up 12 percent or nearly \$18,000 over this school year's premium. Among other things the coverage includes property, liability, automobile and workers compensation.

Following a closed door session, the board hired Rusty Whittington and Grover Hargrove to co-teach driver's education this summer.

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