Written by Marian Volek
Tuesday, July 03, 2012 2:36 PM -

CRYSTAL FALLS—The Forest Park Board of Education made several decisions concerning staff at its June 25 meeting.

Prior to the meeting, Deb Divoky was sworn in as a new board member, filling the vacancy left from John Harrison's resignation last month. Appointed now, she may run for the board position in the November general election.

__PUBLIC__

The board accepted a retirement announcement from Annette Bortilini after 25 years' employment as recess/kitchen/custodial staff. The position will be posted internally as three separate positions.

With the retirement of high school secretary Louise Holmes last month, administrative assistant positions will be reconfigured.

An administrative assistant position was created; the elementary secretary position was eliminated; the elementary secretary was re-assigned to an administrative position; and the district will post for a secondary clerk. A posting will also be made for a special education aide.

The board welcomed a new Spanish/English teacher Benhamin Haight, from Lower Michigan, and accepted, the resignation, with regret, of Eric Ghiggia, who will be teaching at West Iron County in the fall.

Athletic Director/PE teacher Dwaine "Dobie" Anderson also handed in his retirement notice.

He has been with the district for 39 years, starting as a coach, working in community schools, as a teacher and as athletic director. The board said he will be missed greatly. The position of athletic director only will be posted.

Second year probationary status was approved for teachers Frank and Katie Bonacorsi, Ashley Bortolini and Renee Kivioja.

The board gave its "thumbs up" to a recycling project proposed by seventh grade student Madison Scarlassara. She would like to place plastic recycling bins throughout the building,

She told the board not only would it be a "green" move for the school, the district could also save on garbage costs.

Board President Julia Leake cautioned that there's a high likelihood other objects and trash will be deposited in the binds.

Superintendent Becky Waters suggested the bins be a bright color to distinguish them from other trash bins in the building.

The board approved moving forward with a "wall of honor" project, honoring Forest Park graduates who served the country in the military.