

USD 415 Board approves school calendar

**(KNZA)--The Hiawatha Board of Education Wednesday evening approved the 2019-20 calendar.**

**The first day of school will be August 15 and the last day will be May 20, 2020.**

**Christmas break will be December 20-January 6, with spring break being held March 9-13.**

**The calendar contains 176.5 student contact days, one less day than this school year.**

**At the request of high school industrial arts teacher Darrin Arment, the Board approved adding three new courses to the high school curriculum.**

**The new courses will be nested within existing classes, so Arment will teach two courses in the same class period.**

**They include Skilled Mechanical Crafts, which will be offered to 10th and 11th graders; Advanced Materials Technology, which will be offered to 11th and 12th graders; and Research and Design in Building Trades, which will be offered to 12th graders.**

**Arment also discussed the aging equipment, textbooks and curriculum of the middle school introduction to technology course. More information will be presented at a future board meeting as to a possible new course adoption.**

**Following an executive session, the Board approved contract extensions for the district's administrators through the 2020-2021 school year and a \$2,000 salary increase for Superintendent Lonnie Moser.**

**In addition, the Board approved hiring Kesley Hubin as assistant softball coach and to grant authority to Athletic Director Kim Lillie to fill the other assistant softball position.**