

MVTHS BOARD

MVTHS budget in the works

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MT. VERNON — The Mt. Vernon Township High School Board of Education Finance Committee examined the tentative budget Monday evening.

MVTHS Superintendent Mike Smith said when the board meets for its regular meeting, the numbers will be better finalized, but the treasurer is waiting to hear more about a few unknown factors before the tentative budget can be presented to the board.

Smith said the state of Illinois will be paying about 89 percent of the funding it will owe to the high school this year, which he estimated will be at around \$410,000.

"Just getting level state aid would help balance the budget," Smith said. He pointed out with the state cutting much of its funding, it is hard to figure out exact budget numbers. "We've spent about six to eight weeks looking at the budget."

Bills for the high school were up

see BUDGET/Page 3A

BUDGET

continued from 1A

about \$120,000 compared to last August, but some of the bills were one-time expenses, such as asbestos removal. There was also a transportation increase in the amount of \$43,000 for increased fuel costs.

During the building committee meeting, Smith said he is in talks with FGM Architects, Holland Construction Services and McCarthy Construction to finalize contracts on fees and associated costs that may be incurred based on various needs. He said there may be a special meeting held in September so the board can look over

the final numbers.

He said Nov. 1 will be the date to finalize the floor plan for the new school and he will begin meeting with the staff, architects and other interested parties beginning next week to hear input on design plans.

The building committee also discussed the G building on the existing campus, which underwent work during the summer and will still have a little bit of work when the students return to school Friday. Smith said the lobby of the G building is complete, with the exception of the front wall still being boarded up, and some other small projects. He said students will be diverted around these final projects, which will be worked on after school.

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