South Adams superintendent Scott Litwiller participates in some of the dance moves that are a part of the game designed by the TECHFIT team at South Adams. The team designed the game through a grant from Purdue University, and is designed to motivate students to get interested in fitness and technology.

[Photo by Manda Arnold]

SA approves 3-hour delay

BY MANDA ARNOLD
Berne Tri-Weekly News

South Adams superintendent Scott Litwiller brought a recommendation before the school board during Tuesday evening's regular meeting to approve the use of a three-hour delay option. Litwiller stated that the three-hour delay would only be used if he and Mark Cook are fairly certain that they will be able to have school after the delay. He stated that, while he would do it if it was necessary, he did not want to call a two-hour delay, then a three-hour delay, then cancel school. He stated that he understands that could become a burden to parents or teachers, not knowing whether there would be school or not.

The decision to call a delay will be made by 6:30 a.m. Whether or not a three-hour delay will be called will be made by 8:30 a.m. and the final decision to cancel school will be made by 9:30 a.m. The two-hour delay will be a normal day, while a three-hour delay will extend the school day another hour.

The vote was 5-2 in favor of implementing the three-hour delay option. Opposing votes were from school board secretary Landon Patterson and Julie Mansfield.

Members of the South Adams Middle School TECHFIT team performed a demonstration for the school board and guests at the board. TECHFIT stands for Teaching Engineering Concepts to Harness Future Innovators and Technologists. The program is a collaborative effort with Purdue University and is to be used to motivate students to get interested in fitness and technology by designing a game. Students demonstrated their exercise game for board members, even convincing Litwiller and high school principal Trent Lehman to participate in the exercises. There are 23 seventh and

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Personnel matters occupy much of Adams Central meeting

BY JIM LANGHAM
Berne Tri-Weekly News

Dealing with various types of personnel matters occupied much of the business at the Adams Central Community School Board meeting on Tuesday evening.

to our AC staff members as best as we can even in a challenging fiscal environment."

Stiglitz noted that the grand total 2014 classified cost has been $1,670,396. She noted that the one percent increase would be an additional cost of $16,704.
Ethan Duff, Kirsten Herman, and Dario Banuelos explain the TECHFIT program and the fitness game the team designed to school board members during the meeting on Tuesday evening. They performed a demonstration of the game in the high school commons. [Photo by Manda Arnold]

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required to secure appropriations.
"Congress must remain a full partner in the restoration effort in the Great Lakes, and authorizing this initiative is the best way to do that," said Rep. Sander Levin, a Michigan Democrat and co-sponsor of the bill introduced by Rep. David Joyce, an Ohio Republican. The plan is overseen by the Environmental Protection Agency, which in September released a blueprint for the next phase. In addition to continuing existing priorities, including accelerated cleanups of toxic industrial sites, it would require projects beginning in 2017 to consider effects of climate change. Officials also pledged to evaluate how well projects are meeting short-term objectives in addition to long-range goals such as making fish safe to eat and waters clean enough for swimming.
"This bill is good for the Great Lakes and the millions of people who depend on them for their drinking water, jobs and way of life," said Todd Ambs, campaign director of the Healing Our Waters-Great Lakes Coalition. "It will help keep restoration efforts on track and benefit the region's environment and economy."

Indiana health officials report first flu death
INDIANAPOLIS (AP) — Indiana health officials are reporting the first influenza-related death of the season and warning a severe flu season could be ahead.
The Indiana State Department of Health announced Monday the flu death of a 65-year-old person who had not been vaccinated against the virus. Health Commissioner Dr. Jerome Adams is urging all Indiana residents to get vaccinated and to see a health care provider because drugs can reduce the severity and length of the flu if taken within 48 hours of showing symptoms. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention reported last week that H3N2 flu viruses have been the most common so far this flu season and historically more hospitalizations and deaths are reported during seasons when H3N2 viruses are dominant.

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In other news-
- The board approved a facility use request by softball coach Jesse O'Dell to use the school on most Sunday evenings through December through March. O'Dell wants to sponsor pitching lessons for South Adams girls in grades 2-8. This is the fifth year O'Dell has held these lessons.
- The board approved moving the January 13 board meeting time to 5:15 p.m. due to the girls and boys basketball conference tournament that will be taking place that evening.