

**Summer  
2013**

# *The Bluebird Post* *A USD 411 Newsletter*

*A Quarterly Publication from the Superintendent's Office*

## **Upcoming dates**

Aug. 7 Enrollment 6-9 pm

Aug. 8 Enrollment 8am - 12 pm.

Aug. 19 First day for fall athletic practices.

Aug. 22 First day of school.

Aug. 27 Open House at GES.

Aug. 30 Fall Sports Preview

Sept. 3 First Volleyball game at Elyria

Sept. 3 Lifetouch Pictures

Sept. 5 First CC meet and JH VB and FB home.

Sept. 6 First HS FB game vs Centre at home.

## **FCCLA Brings Home Gold from Nationals**



*FCCLA students traveling to Nationals in Nashville were, from left: Anna Wiens, Abyssa Booton, Alicen Meysing, Page Hiebert, Tia Goertzen and Alex Hiebert. They were sponsored by Mrs. Gina Bergin.*

The 2013 FCCLA National Leadership Conference “Discover Your Voice” was held in Nashville, Tennessee from July 7-11. Goessel FCCLA advisor Gina Bergin took six students to compete in this ultimate leadership experience. The event was attended by over 7,000 students from across the country. They heard many informative and motivational speakers. The featured speaker was Doc Hendley, who has been working around the world helping impoverished communities establish drinkable water. Each student presented a STAR (Student Taking Action for Recognition) event, and each student won a gold medal on the last day of the conference for their presentation. An example of one presentation was in the area of “Focus on the Children” where Alicen Meysing and Page Hiebert presented Alice in Bullyland, an anti-bullying training for third grade students. Students also had the opportunity to tour the Grand Ole Opry and the Ryman Auditorium. The instructor, Mrs. Bergin and Mrs. Janna Duerksen accompanied the students.

## **BOE Prepares for Ground Breaking**

The BOE is excited to begin plans for a ground breaking early this fall. This summer Loyd Builders continue to detail the blueprints and engineer the design. They expect to release bids late in August and hopefully begin actual construction in late September. The first phase of the work will focus on the new West Annex which will house Agricultural Education, High School Science and FACS (formerly called Home Economics). Also included in the first phase is the Tornado Shelter at the Grade School. The second phase of work will occur next summer when the windows in the 1930's portion of the HS are replaced, brick work repaired and sealed, the art room and weight rooms will be moved and front entrance remodeled. Watch for announcements soon regarding a groundbreaking ceremony around the start of the school year!

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## New Staff Members

Joining the staff this year will be Mr. Andrew Voth, Vocal Music Director. Mr. Voth will be teaching vocal music to the middle school and high school students as well as directing Elbiata. Mr. Voth grew up in Topeka and attended Bethel College, graduating this past spring. He takes over for Mrs. Renae Peters who will be home to raise a family.

Also joining the music department will be Mr. Scott Taylor, Band Director. Mr. Taylor will be directing the 5th grade band, middle school band and high school band. Prior to coming to Goessel, he was the band director at Inman for the past 12 years. He grew up in Lincoln, NE and attended the University of Nebraska. In his free time he enjoys raising Lamas. Mr. Taylor will be taking over for Mr. Tierney who accepted a position at St. Mary's in Newton.



Mr. Ricardo Sanchez will be taking over the art department, K-12, following the retirement of Mr. Brian Stucky. Mr. Sanchez attended Hesston HS, and graduated from Bethel College this past spring. He did his student teaching with Nadine Voth in Newton and Kathy Schroeder in Hesston. He has also coached tennis, Odyssey of the Mind and served as an interpreter for Newton and Hesston School districts.

Mrs. Alyssa Kroeker will be teaching HS math, taking over for Mrs. Susan Saunders. Mrs. Kroeker is also a graduate of Hesston HS, attended Tabor College where she was an All Academic American in baseball and also played volleyball. The past couple of years she has been a math teacher in Great Bend. She looks forward to returning to this area where both her parents and parents-in-law reside. She will also be the head JH volleyball coach.



Mr. Marc Knowles joins USD 411 as a van driver, driving students to and from the Newton Vo-tech department. Mr. Knowles has worked in real estate and also works as an apartment manager. He and his wife Tiffany reside in Goessel with their two children.

# Fall Sports Preview

## FOOTBALL

The high school football team has had a good summer and the coaches and players are looking forward to the beginning of practice. Summer workouts and conditioning have gone well and many players have gotten stronger and faster. This year, the team will be led by seniors Brian Hiebert, Reece Hiebert, Mark Schmidt, Zach Showalter, Michael Rhoades, and Jordan Myers. Many players with past experience are returning and the coaches are also excited about the contributions of the incoming freshmen and new players.

This year, the high school football team is looking to repeat and exceed last year's success. A new opponent on this year's schedule is Norwich. District opponents for the Bluebirds include Tescott, Burrton, Chase, Southern Cloud, White City, and Hope. Practice begins with two-a-days on Monday, August 19, the Fall Sports Preview will be on August 30, and our first game will at home vs. Centre on September 6. We look forward to your support throughout the season and we hope to see you on Friday nights! Coach Hiebert and Coach Biggs

## CROSS COUNTRY

The 2013 cross country team is looking to build on a successful 2012 season by making a return trip to the state meet. Although a few members of the state qualifying team have moved on, seniors Heath Gortzen, Ben Wiens, and Jake Herrell are ready to lead the return. Leading the ladies team is Kylee Unruh, regional qualifier in the 2012 season. Look for Dane Kurger, Aaron Woelk, and Zach Wiens to step up and fill key roles. Second year head coach Tyler Schroeder is excited to work with the group and is anxious to see this group improve. There is no doubt that this group's camaraderie and sense of humor will benefit them as they make strides to return to state.

Coach Schroeder

## VOLLEYBALL

While there will be no seniors on the upcoming volleyball team, look for a talented cast of underclassmen to lead the bluebird charge. Returning to the line up will be Erin Brubaker, Alicen Meysing and Page Hiebert. There will be many talented and promising underclassmen bringing energy and enthusiasm to the team. They open their first game on Tuesday Sept. 3 with a triangular in Elyria. The volleyball team is coached by Crysta Guhr and Zana Manche.

## FROM THE ATHLETIC DIRECTOR

**New this year!!** A new scheduling program is being used this year to help keep you informed!

Need directions to a game? Want to know what time the game starts? Interested in syncing the school events to your personal calendar? All of these features and many more will be available to you at the start of the year. Be sure that you and your students attend the sports meeting on August 7 at 7 pm to find out more.

**Upcoming dates:** August 7, 7 pm – Fall Sports Parents Meeting (Individual meetings for fall sports will be held, but all parents should attend to learn about things that effect all athletes) August 19 – First day for fall athletic practices (JH and HS). Reminder – all students must submit a physical, concussion release form, and emergency medical form before they can practice. Aug. 30 is the Fall Sports Preview.

**Admission changes:** Admission prices for JH and HS sports for the coming year are as follows:

Seniors (65+): \$4.00, but can be reduced to \$1.00 with a senior discount card. Adults: \$4.00 Students: \$3.00, but can be reduced significantly if students join the BlueCrew. More information and details will be shared at the Fall Sports meeting on August 7 at 7 pm. Don't forget to ask about the new offerings at enrollment.

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## Enrollment Information

*A Quarterly Publication from the  
Superintendent's Office*

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Enrollment for the 2013-2014 Goessel school year is scheduled for Grades K-12 on August 7, 6-9 p.m. and August 8, 8 a.m. to noon, in their respective buildings. There will be an option of mail-in or walk-in enrollment. Enrollment information will be mailed prior to enrollment and families will have the opportunity to mail in enrollment information with enrollment fees or bring the information and fees in during one of the enrollment times. The first day of school is Thursday, August 22, 8 a.m.

**WE'RE ON THE WEB!**  
**USD411.ORG**

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