

Fall  
2012

# The Bluebird Post

## A USD 411 Newsletter

*A Quarterly Publication from the Superintendent's Office*

### Upcoming dates

- Nov. 3 HS football regionals
- Nov. 6 WSL Instrumental Festival
- Nov. 9 & 10 HS Musical 7:00 pm
- Nov. 12 JH BB against C/G
- Nov. 13 Fall Awards 7:00 pm VB
- Nov. 15 JH BB against Solomon
- Nov. 16 & 17 FCCLA cluster meeting @ OKC
- Nov. 20 JH Band and Choir Concert 7 pm
- Nov. 21 No School, Thanksgiving Vacation
- Nov. 28 Elbiata @ Bethel College 11:30 am.

## USD 411 Embarks on Facilities Study Across the District

This fall the Board of Education has announced a facility study across the district to assess needs. Our current bond project will be paid off in three years. However, with concerns coming out of Topeka that state aid for bond projects could be withdrawn, the Board has decided to embark on the needs assessment now. Goessel, USD 411 is a 40% state aid district. Compared to many other districts across the state that have higher valuations, USD 411 is a poorer district. That means for each \$1 million dollars of improvements, the state kicks in \$400,000 that local patrons don't have to pay. The board determined that the possibility of losing that amount of state aid was too important to postpone the discussion of the districts' facility needs.

At the BOE retreat, the board identified six areas of critical needs: 1) Agricultural Education 2) Science Lab. 3) Family and Consumer Sciences (FACS) 4) deterioration of bricks and mortar on older part of HS 5) leaky windows on the old part of the HS and 6) proper tornado shelter at the Grade School. There were other areas of needs, but these six topped the list.

During the staff in-service on Friday, Oct. 12, 52 staff members met in the HS cafeteria to discuss the districts' facility needs. The staff members took a tour of the Ag. Ed. wing, Science Lab, and FACS Lab. Several staff who are alumni commented on the fact that things were just the way they were when they were in school. Concerns for safety in regard to proper ventilation when welding or working with chemicals were voiced. Once again, the staff identified the same needs related to safety and instruction at the top of their list as the BOE identified.

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*Staff members gather in the cafeteria on Friday, Oct. 12 to discuss the district's facility needs. Staff identified the same needs that the BOE identified.*

## Facilities (continued)

(continued from page 1)

In addition, they discussed the advantages of possibly having an expanded fitness room that could be open to the public.

Shortly after the district staff meeting, the district invited two experts, Dr. Shannon Washburn and Dr. Steve Herbstreit, both professors of Ag. Ed. from KSU, to visit our district. The intent of the visit was to have a focus group regarding the direction of Ag. Ed., Science Ed. and FACS education in the years to come. Our desire is to set up a learning environment where much collaboration could occur between these departments. Both Dr. Washburn and Dr. Herbstreit shared valuable information with the group.

The board will continue to gather information and share information with the community. The BOE and administration will be hosting two upcoming community meetings and tours for the public. The first one will occur Sunday afternoon, Nov. 18 at 4:00 pm and the second will occur Monday evening, Nov. 19 at 7:00 pm. Both of these tours will begin at the HS auditorium and the community is encouraged to attend one of these two meetings. The board will be interested in hearing from the community before any decisions are made.



*Focus committee members meet with Dr. Washburn and Dr. Herbstreit of KSU Ag. Ed. Dept.*



## High School Musical: Wizard of Oz

Since the beginning of the school year, the Goessel High School Theatre department has been rehearsing, memorizing, and choreographing the Kansas-based production of *The Wizard of Oz*. The musical was originally written as the book *The Wonderful Wizard of Oz* by L. Frank Baum in 1900. The book was later adapted for film use and was produced as the well-known 1939 musical fantasy film *The Wizard of Oz*. Goessel will be staging the Royal Shakespeare Company version with music and lyrics of the MGM motion picture score by Harold Arlen, E.Y. Harburg, Herbert Stothart, and John Kane.

“Somewhere Over the Rainbow” is sung by Dorothy Gale, played by Alex Hiebert, senior. Uncle Henry is played by Keenan Stultz, sophomore. Doubly-casted as Aunt Em and Glinda, the Good Witch of the North, is Georgia Thiesen, senior. Almira Gultch and the Wicked Witch of the West are played by Sarah Booth, sophomore. Hunk and the Scarecrow are played by Mark Schmidt, junior; Hickory and the Tin Man are played by Davis Cook, senior; and Zeke and the Cowardly Lion are played by Luke Unruh, freshman. Professor Marvel and the great Wizard of Oz are portrayed by David Hesse, sophomore. The Munchkin Mayor is Erin Brubaker and the Munchkin Coroner is Leighton Wagner. Gentry Thiesen plays the Emerald City Guard and Zachary Wiens is Nikko, the Commander of the Flying Monkeys. Pepper Makovec appears as Toto. Many other students play supporting roles in the play.

*The Wizard of Oz* will be performed twice: Friday, November 9, and Saturday, November 10, both at 7:00 p.m. in the Goessel High School auditorium. FCCLA will serve a lasagna dinner from 5:45-6:45 in the High School cafeteria (free-will donations accepted). The admission cost for the musical is \$5 for adults and \$3 for children, students, and seniors. Tickets are available at the Goessel High School office, 8 a.m.-3:30 p.m. (620-367-2242).



# Fall Sports Preview

## Volleyball

The Goessel High School Volleyball team ended its 2012 season as Sub-State runner-up. They dominated a good Rosalia team in the semi-finals, 25-6, 25-9, but then fell to the reigning 2A State Champions (now 1A) in the finals 19-25, 14-25. The Bluebirds put up a great fight and played very well to end their season. The team's overall record is 29-10. Losses this year have come from some very good, high-quality teams, including: Sedgwick (37-2), Hillsboro (37-3), 2 losses to Olpe, Halstead, Hesston, Wabaunsee, and Ell-Saline (2A state qualifier, currently ranked #1 in 2A). The Bluebirds have had an incredible season under the leadership of four great seniors, Tia Goertzen, Jessica Harvey, Alex Hiebert, and Johanna Hoffman. These girls will be missed! Congratulations to the team for such an outstanding season!



*Seniors Jessica Harvey, Tia Goertzen, Alex Hiebert, Johanna Hoffman and coach Crysta Guhr*

## Football

Led by an outstanding group of seniors, the Goessel High School football team earned a berth in bi-district play with a win over Hope Thursday, Oct. 25 with a score of 42-28. This win clinched second place in the district and gives the bluebirds the opportunity to travel to Baileyville on Tuesday, Oct. 30th, to continue their outstanding season. The bluebirds have posted a 6-1 record over the past 7 games as they have continued to improve each week. This years seniors include Trey Schmidt, Nic Buller, Shane Goertzen, and Cain Smith. These four young men have done an outstanding job of leading this team to its goals.



*Trey Schmidt runs for another touchdown.*

## Cross Country

On Saturday, Oct. 27 the Bluebird Cross Country team will head to Wamego for the state championship meet. Seven boys (Davis Cook, Grant Flaming, Nathan Czarnowsky, Ben Wiens, Heath Goertzen, Zach Wiens, Jake Herrel) and one girl (Ali Buller) will represent Goessel at the meet that hosts 12 teams and over 40 individuals in each division. To qualify for state, the boys placed 3rd as a team and Ali placed 6th as an individual at the Cessna Activity Center on Oct. 20th. Considered to be a hilly and challenging course, all competitors at state have their work cut out for them. These athletes and the other CC runners will be honored at the Fall Sports banquet on Nov. 13 at 7 pm.



*Davis Cook and Heath Goertzen run to the finish line*

Goessel USD 411  
P. O. Box 68  
Goessel, KS 67053

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The Third Grade will be hosting Grandparents Day on  
Tuesday, Nov. 20. Grandparents of Third Grade stu-  
dents are invited to come in the morning at 10:00  
am and visit the classroom. They are also invited to  
eat lunch with their grandchild. Contact the school  
office if you have a grandparent who would like to  
attend.

Dr. John Fast, Superintendent  
P.O. Box 68  
Goessel, KS  
67053  
Phone: 620-367-4601  
Fax: 620-367-4603  
Email: john.fast@usd411.org

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