

**Summer
2014**

The Bluebird Post *A USD 411 Newsletter*

A Quarterly Publication from the Superintendent's Office

Upcoming dates

Aug. 12-13 Enrollment

Aug. 18 First Day of
Sports Practices

Aug. 25 -27 Teacher In-
service Days

Aug. 28 First Day of
School for Students and
Open House at the GES in
the Evening

Aug. 29 Fall Sports Pre-
view

Sept. 2 VB Quad at El
Saline

Sept. 4 CC at Clearwater

Sept. 4 JH VB and FB at
Rural Vista

Sept. 5 HS FB at Peabody

Construction Brings Improvements for Students of USD 411



The west annex will be the new home to Agricultural Education, High School Science, and Family and Consumer Sciences. This portion of the construction will be completed in September

We are excited about the improvements that are happening at USD 411! Significant improvements are coming to several program areas. The west annex at the HS will house the new HS Science Lab, Family and Consumer Sciences classroom and the Agricultural Education classroom and lab. Additional improvements at the HS include remodeling of the front entry to allow for greater security and handicap access. The old science room is being remodeled to become the new art room. This means the art room will have natural outside lighting, access to the courtyard for sculpture and other outdoor creations and will be adjacent to the Emil Kym art gallery. The old art room in the basement is being remodeled and will become the new weightroom. This relocation for the weightroom will nearly triple the floor space of the current weightroom. The old FACS room will be accommodating Special Education services, giving needed additional space for students with special needs. At the grade school the remodeling of the boys bathroom is completed, the air lock entry on the east side is in progress and work continues on the storm shelter.

When the \$3 million dollar bond project was approved at 92%, it was expected there would be a 3.2 mil increase to pay for the project. However, due to the KS Supreme Court decision, requiring the legislature to reinstate aid to districts with low valuation and to the board of education increasing the Local Option Budget to 30%, patrons will see a 6.6 mil decrease in their taxes. The district's overall budget remains flat as there is no new money. The difference is that the state is taking up more of the financial support. In spring the BOE will be requesting the community to approve a move to 31% which will bring more school aid and more tax relief to local patrons.

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Brian Lightner, Math and A.D.

New Staff Members Join USD

Five new staff members will be joining Goessel, USD 411 for the coming school year. We welcome them to our school and community.

Mr. Brian Lightner has been hired as a math teacher covering 5 math classes, will be the Athletic Director and will coach cross country. Mr. Lightner comes to us from Peabody where he has been a math teacher since 2009. Prior to Peabody, he taught at Cimarron for three years. He graduated from Inman HS, Tabor College and completed his MS from Fort Hays University. He and his wife are looking to relocate to the Goessel community. Mr. Lightner takes over part of Mr. Tyler Schroeder's duties who went to Newton as a full-time Business teacher, and Mrs. Alyssa Kroeker's duties who went to Hesston.



Garrett Hiebert, Math and Business instructor

Mr. Garrett Hiebert is not new to the Goessel community. He will be teaching Business and a few math classes. Mr. Hiebert graduated from Goessel HS in 2007 and attended Bethel College where he played football. After graduation from Bethel he completed a MA from Southwestern College in Business. Most recently, Mr. Hiebert was employed through MCSEC as a para professional, working at the grade school. Mr. Hiebert will also continue as the head HS football coach, junior high boys basketball coach and track coach. His wife, Brittany is teaching middle school Language Arts at Goessel. He will take over some of Mrs. Kroeker's duties, and part of Mr. Schroeder's duties.

Mrs. Beth Ratzloff will be taking over in the Family and Consumer Sciences department. Most recently Mrs. Ratzloff was a para in the Sedgwick school system. She graduated from Hiawatha HS, Pittsburg State University in Nursing care and is currently enrolled in the transition to teaching program through Ft. Hays University. She lives in Valley Center with her husband and family. She will also be the FCCLA sponsor. She follows Mrs. Bergin who took a position in another district.



Beth Ratzloff, FACS instructor

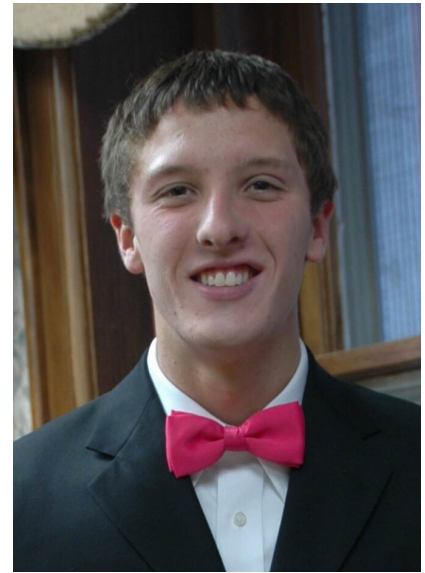
We welcome Mr. Patrick Loganbill as our new elementary P.E. and Health teacher. Mr. Loganbill will also coordinate the elementary computer lab and assist at the Junior High computer lab. Mr. Loganbill is a graduate of Bethel College where he completed a BS in Health and P.E. education. He has been a counselor at Camp Mennohah for the past several years and most recently completed a voluntary teaching job at Colegio Fundacion Neuva Granda, an international school in Bogota, Columbia. Mr. Loganbill will also be the StuCo sponsor and assist coaching JH boys basketball. *(His picture is on page 3)*

Alyssa Rumble joins us as the Spanish Instructor at the HS. Ms Rumble will be employed .5 here at Goessel and will be teaching at Newton HS in the morning. Ms. Rumble has completed three Masters degrees in Spanish studies and has studied and traveled extensively through many Spanish speaking countries. *(Her picture is on page 3)*



Alyssa Rumble
Spanish Instructor

Patrick Loganbill
Elementary
P.E. and Health
Instructor



Sports Preview

VOLLEYBALL

The High School Volleyball Team returns all players for its 2014 campaign. With a host of talent returning and a lot of young talent, this year's team should be exciting to watch. The Lady Bluebirds will look to win its 5th straight league title and make another deep run into the post season. Last year's team finished 4th at the 1A state tournament, and this year's group has set its goals even higher.

The volleyball team opens their season on Tuesday, Sept. 2 at Ell-Saline. They will see lots of playing action when they host their home tournament Saturday, Sept. 13. We hope you can come out and cheer them on. Good Luck Lady Bluebirds!

FOOTBALL

The Bluebirds look to their seniors to lead the way this coming year. Returning seniors will be Kellen Froese, Connor Davis, and Lucas Hiebert. Coach Garrett Hiebert will be assisted this year by Matt Cole who replaces Joe Biggs who got married this past summer and is teaching in Beloit. The public will have an opportunity to preview the football team at the fall sports preview on Friday, Aug. 29. Goessel opens their regular season on the road against Peabody on Friday, Sept. 5. We look forward to having your support on Friday nights!

CROSS COUNTRY

Coach Brian Lightner takes over the coaching reins from Tyler Schroeder this year. Two state qualifiers from last year will be returning, sophomores Jennifer Meysing and Riley Jarvis. The boys will be lead by seniors Dane Kruger and Aaron Woelk. The cross country team opens their season with a meet at Clearwater on Thursday, Sept. 4.

FALL SPORTS PREVIEW

We would like to invite everyone out for the Fall Sports Preview Friday, Aug. 29. Parents and patrons will get to see these teams in action in scrimmage.



GES Open House

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Superintendent's Office*

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WE'RE ON THE WEB!
USD411.ORG

Goessel Elementary will be hosting an Open House on the evening of the first day of school, Aug. 28. The Kindergarten presentation will begin at 7:00, first grade at 7:15, second grade at 7:30, third grade at 7:45, fourth grade at 8:00 and fifth grade at 8:15. This is an excellent time to hear from your teacher about an overview of the curriculum and expectations. No doubt your child would love to show you his/her room and introduce you to their teacher! We hope that you can attend this event.

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