

**October  
2017**

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

*A Quarterly Publication from the Superintendent's Office*

## **Upcoming dates**

- Oct. 26 Last football game at Claflin
- Oct. 27-28 State Volleyball at Emporia
- Oct. 28 State CC at Wamego
- Oct. 30 JH BB begins
- Oct. 31 Halloween
- Nov. 2 State Eco-meet
- Nov. 4 SCKMEA auditions
- Nov. 5 Daylight Savings Time Ends
- Nov. 7 Fall Elections
- Nov. 10-11 HS Play

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## **Upcoming School Board Elections Presents Three New Candidates**

Tuesday, Nov. 7, you will have the opportunity to vote for three new board members.

Ben Schrag grew up in Nebraska and Illinois before attending Bethel College. He graduated from Bethel in 2003. He is currently employed full time at Emma Creek Farms, which is his wife's family farm and are in the 4th generation of family operation. Ben is married to Tina (Schmidt) and they have two boys, Noah a 6th grader and Levi a 4th grader. In addition he is an associate board member for Mid Kanas Cooperative and serves in a variety of positions at Alexanderwohl Mennonite Church. Ben states, "He is seeking the position to ensure the continued success of the school system in Goessel. Goessel schools are financially responsible, have a history of outstanding leadership and are well respected in the community, county and state. I believe offering my skills and abilities is one way I can serve this community." He is seeking Lynette Duerksen's position who has served July 2001.

Patrick Flaming was born and raised in Goessel and graduated from GHS in 1996. After college, Patrick and his wife, Amy, lived in Newton for 10 years before moving back to Goessel. A big reason for the move back was because of the quality of education that the Goessel school system possesses. Patrick has worked in the healthcare field for 17 years with patient care and community education. He is also active in the church and the Goessel community. Patrick and Amy have three children, all attending Goessel schools. He looks forward to serving on the Goessel School Board, supporting administration, faculty and staff in continuing to provide USD 411 students an excellent education along with character building and integrity to promote life-long success. Patrick is seeking the position being vacated by James Wiens who has served since July 2009.



*Ben Schrag*



*Patrick Flaming*

## BOE candidates (continued from the front page)

Bryant Miller was appointed by the Board of Education this past summer to fulfill the remainder of his father, Dan Miller's term. He is now running to fill the position. Bryant and his wife, Chrystiana, live on the family farm east of Goessel. Bryant graduated from Goessel High School in 2010 and went on to Kansas State University to complete his master's degree in Family Studies and Child Therapy. He is employed by Prairie View in Newton as a therapist. He enjoys working on the farm and is committed to supporting the Goessel community. Dan Miller served on the board since July 1999.



*Bryant Miller*

## Students Attend Global Food Conference

Last week Emily and Madeline Meier attended the World Food Prize Global Youth Institute in Des Moines, Iowa along with their sponsor, Ms. Oard. Both girls submitted papers at the state level, focused on a food topic in a developing country. Finalists were invited to attend the conference. Maddy wrote about increasing animal production in Ethiopia. The conference was attended by students from 9 different countries and 27 different states. For Emily, a lasting memory was how the conference helped to break stereotypes. She learned that not everyone involved in food production is necessarily a farmer. For Maddy it was an opportunity to have her voice be heard and to hear from others from all over the world. The conference lasted three days and during that time they enjoyed an opportunity to try many different foods, and particularly got to enjoy Nigerian food. While there, the entire group of about 200 students packaged 44,000 meals to be shipped to Puerto Rico. For Ms. Oard, she really enjoyed the opportunity to interact with other instructors from across the states as well as abroad. The World Food Prize Global Youth Institute is sponsored by the Rockefeller Foundation and Bill Gates Foundation as well as other sponsors.



*Emily and Madeline Meier*

## HS to Present: Alice In Wonderland

On Friday and Saturday, Nov. 10-11, Goessel High School drama department will be presenting Alice in Wonderland. Written in 1865 as a fantasy novel by Charles Lutwidge Dodgson under the pseudonym Lewis Carroll, it tells of a girl named Alice falling through a rabbit hole into a fantasy world populated by anthropomorphic creatures. Some of the major characters are: Bea Gaeddert plays Alice, Ciera Nolte plays the Queen of Hearts and Elyse Boden is the White Rabbit. Tickets will be available at the door the night of the program. All tickets will be \$5. The play is directed by Tiffani Knowles and assisted by Donna O'Neill.

# Sports Page

## Football Travels to the Last Regular Season Game

The fall sports seasons are quickly coming to a close! The high school JV football team wrapped up their season with a 2 point victory against Peabody-Burns on October 16. This pushed their final record to 4 wins and 1 loss. The future looks bright for GHS football! The varsity team has one game remaining. They will play against Central Plains at Claflin on Thursday, October 26. The current varsity record is 2 wins and 6 losses. The football team has appreciated fan and community support throughout the year and is looking forward to seeing everyone in Claflin on Thursday.

## Volleyball Earns First Place Seeding at State!

The Lady Bluebird volleyball team has enjoyed success yet again this season. The JV team wrapped up their season with an overall record of 16-8 and ended with a great win over Hesston to end their season. The varsity team is currently 39-0; they won an exciting 2A sub-state title this past Saturday by defeating Allen-Northern Heights, Hillsboro, and Olpe. The Lady Bluebirds appreciated the tremendous turn out by our fans who supported the team at Marion, and they hope all will continue to support them as they compete for another State Championship. They advance to the State Tournament at White Auditorium in Emporia to begin Friday afternoon against Leon-Bluestem at 4:30. Other matches are scheduled for 6:30 and 8:30. Opening Ceremonies will be conducted no sooner than 2:45 pm.

## Goessel XC wins League/Nightengale Qualifies for State

The Goessel cross country season is wrapping up quickly with the state meet on Saturday, October 28. Senior Julia Nightengale will represent the Bluebirds in Wamego after qualifying at the Meade Regional by placing eighth overall. She runs at 12:20 pm at Wamego Country Club. Another highlight of the season is a double league championship as both the boys and the girls are Wheat State League Champions! The kids have done well this season. They have represented our school and community with respect and integrity as they run as one, work as a team, and finish everything as a family.

## Student-Led Conferences

Goessel Jr/Sr High made a significant change with Parent-Teacher conferences this year. Parents were asked to attend a scheduled student-led conference for their child. The students shared valuable information about their academic progress including samples of classroom work, grade reports, standardized assessment scores and goals, career interests, their high school course plan, and an evaluation of their own strengths and weaknesses. Many positive comments were received regarding the new format. Multiple parents commented that they liked having a scheduled time and that their child demonstrated responsibility and more ownership in their education by leading the conference. One of the reasons for the change is an effort to align with the Kansans Can vision for education that places a greater emphasis on helping students develop more employability skills and the development of individual plans of study based on career interest.

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## Scholastic Book Fair

*A Quarterly Publication from the  
Superintendent's Office*

Dr. John Fast, Superintendent  
P.O. Box 68  
Goessel, KS  
67053

Phone: 620-367-4601  
Fax: 620-367-4603  
Email: fastj@usd411.org

A big thank you to all the parents and patrons who came out to support the Elementary School Scholastic Book Fair. There was a wide variety of books to choose from and all the proceeds go to benefit our library.

## Mirari Brass

On Thursday, November 30th, the Mirari Brass Ensemble will be providing a special concert at the Elementary School for students. The Mirari Brass are being sponsored by the Hesston-Bethel Performing Arts Department. They will feature Anthony Plog's Animal Ditties and The Racy by Gwyneth Walker, a contemporary retelling of The Tortoise and the Hare.

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