



# The Bluebird

A Publication for the Alumni of Goessel High School

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## Are you ready for some FOOTBALL?

The 1963-1964 school year was the first year Goessel High School competed in football. Goessel was a part of the D-M League. This league was playing eight-man football. Twenty-six boys were on the squad the first season. The first game was played on September 27, 1963 against Durham, who had also started football that season. The game ended with a 13-13 deadlock. In October they played Durham again at home and this time won 25-12. The team finished their first season with a record of 1 win, 3 losses, and 1 tie. Mr. Dwayne Reusser and Mr. John Dick were the coaches.

Discussions were held as early as 1958 to determine whether to adopt football as a school sport. Surveys were sent out to patrons. Many of the survey responses were positive. One individual responded, "Yes, it might direct the hot-rodding and other purposeless energies into more constructive channels." It would be another 5 years before the board would approve football and discontinue softball.

In 1957, lights had been installed on the existing athletic field which was located north of the current high school gym, (currently a parking lot and practice field). The 80 yard field ran north and south. Footballs games were played on this field until 1967 when the board began to discuss the possibilities of a new football field. The new hundred yard football field and track would be located to the east of the present field. The area would be lighted and include an irrigation system and bleachers. Throughout the 1967-1968 year, bids were obtained for construction of the track, dirt work, seeding and irrigating the football field. Bleachers also were discussed. Cost for the bleachers was estimated to be six hundred dollars, with a seating capacity for 200 on each side. After discussion, the board deemed this to be too expensive. The addition of a press box also was discussed and approved. The number of boys interested in playing football continued to increase so it was determined they would play eleven man football the next season.

The state of Kansas adopted a new overtime rule in 1971 to eliminate a tie in Kansas high school football. In September, Goessel played Burrton and the rule was used for the first time in Kansas. Burrton and Goessel had to go through five overtimes before Burrton came out on top, 22-14. At least four other games in Kansas were decided in overtime as the season opened.

By 1990, fewer boys were involved in football. It was decided that Goessel and Canton-Galva would join as one team. Students and patrons were excited the following year when the two schools agreed to have separate teams.

Even though the 1970's track was one of the finest in the league, by the late 1990's it was beginning to show extensive wear. The board again began the discussion of a new track and football field. The 2004-2005 school year brought the completion of a new facility complete with press box, scoreboard, and seating for both sides.



### Contact Information

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The alumni newsletter is also posted on the alumni page of the USD 411 web page.

## Dress Code

Early in the school history how you dressed for school was never really a question. Girls wore dresses, and boys wore pants and shirts. The dress code was first discussed in the minutes of the 1966-1967 school year, after which the term dress code appears in the high school handbook for the first time. The minutes state, "Jeans can be worn to and from school. Classroom temperatures are kept at 72 degrees." It was advised the girls not wear jeans in the classroom. Slacks or shorts (girls) were to be worn only in gym class.



The beginning of the 1968 school year included some controversy over skirt lengths, pant dresses, and culottes for girls and shirt tails for boys. In the school newsletter, *The Bluebird*, students shared a variety of opinions on this subject. One student suggested you couldn't buy skirts that weren't above the knee and that it was far more comfortable to study with the shirttails out than worrying about whether they were half in and half out. Another student suggested neatness played a part in the dress code. This student didn't see any problem with shirttails being worn-out regardless of whether they were square or not. "As long as they are neat and fit right, (not sloppy), they don't look bad." Apparently, there was also some discussion about hair length as one student stated, "Guys shouldn't come to school with hair all the way down their necks but what guy looks good in a Mohawk?"

The 1969-1970 handbook states, "Pant dresses or culottes are not be worn in the classroom." By 1970 jeans or slacks were permitted if the day was severely cold and blustery. Throughout this time, teachers were also expected to dress appropriately. In 1971 the ladies on staff asked whether they could wear pantsuits. This request was originally denied, but then later that year the board reviewed the request and dropped the dress code for the teachers. The dress code was also dropped for the students that same year after a request was made at a board meeting. It does not reappear in the handbook again until 1977 when it states, "neat, clean and decent dressing."

In October of 1993 the agenda for the Board of Education included an appeal from the Student Council that would allow students to wear shorts all year long. Student Council argued they were smart enough to decide when the weather was appropriate for shorts. The Board's main concern revolved around respectability and what the guidelines about the types of shorts worn should be. When the policy passed, it stated shorts could be worn all year and should not be worn too short or revealing. Bicycle shorts were not acceptable, but could be worn under other shorts. Shorts were not to be worn in the grade school between October 15 and March 31, except for planned school activities.

As fashions change, school boards find that they need to adjust the dress code. Many changes continue to be made. The current dress code is listed below.

1. Caps or hats and other headdress are not to be worn in the classroom or in the lunchroom.
2. Clothes must be neat and clean and under apparel is required.
3. Safety regulations must be met in certain classes. (I.e., Industrial Arts and Ag. Education may require special dress.)
4. Wearing apparel that commercializes tobacco, alcoholic beverages or illegal substances, or which are inconsistent with other school regulations, such as obscene or suggestive pictures or language may not be worn to school.
5. Shorts may be worn to school but they are not to be worn too short or revealing. Bicycle shorts, yoga pants, or other form fitting clothing by themselves are not acceptable, but they may be worn under other shorts. Jr. High and High school students may wear shorts year round, but Grade school students may not wear shorts between October 15 and March 31, except, where school activities dictate it.

## Dress Code continued

6. Skirts or shorts, which are short or revealing, are not acceptable. The shortest part of the apparel must be at least as long as the tip of the index finger when arms are relaxed to the side.
7. Shirts that do not completely cover the midriff area are not appropriate. Fishnet clothing, halter tops, or spaghetti straps may not be worn by itself. Tank tops, tube tops, or other type shirts, which do not cover the upper body properly, are not acceptable. Tops should have at least 2" of cloth across the top of the shoulder. Cleavage should not be visible. Also, shirts that are low or revealing, that allow undergarments to show, that have partially open sides or that have large openings are not appropriate school apparel.
8. Bare feet or stocking feet will not be permitted. Shoes must be worn at all times based on Kansas State Board of Health regulations.
9. Sunglasses, unless required by a physician, are unacceptable. They should be left in one's locker.
10. Exceptions to this may be made on special occasions with prior approval of the administration to those listed above.
11. Chains and gang related clothing is not permitted.

Students should strive for neatness, cleanliness, and good taste in their school dress at all times. Therefore, acceptable dress for students at school or school sponsored activities shall be the responsibility of both the parent(s) and students.

As you can see a lot has changed, but the overall principle has stayed the same.

## Keeping In Touch

I continue to update the alumni list. If you have moved and changed your email address or you know of someone who has made a change, please let me know. I continue to have people request addresses when they plan class reunions. If you have had a recent class reunion I would appreciate an updated list. Also, remember I will no longer be sending newsletters to postal addresses unless you paid \$5 in January. There will continue to be a summer and winter newsletter.

Because of your support at the concession stand during the alumni weekend and some generous donations, I have been able to purchase supplies for the archive room. If you have school related papers or objects that you no longer want, please feel free to contact me. I have accepted numerous donations throughout the last few years. If you are interested in researching what activities a relative might have been involved in while at Goessel High School, I may be able to help you find some information.

I have created an index for the Archive Files. Individuals can see this index when you log onto the USD 411 website, [www.usd411.org](http://www.usd411.org). Click on the alumni page.

Also, I enjoy receiving stories and pictures that pertain to Goessel High School. If you have something you would like to share, feel free to email me at [abrahamsi@usd411.org](mailto:abrahamsi@usd411.org).



A Publication from the  
Alumni Association

Ilona Abrahams,  
Editor

## This and That

How did the high school get students to Twin Hills near Coronado Heights when going on a field trip?

Remember no buses!

(Answer: Parents would supply grain trucks. 40-50 people would stand in the bed of the truck.) *Notice the trucks parked in the background.*



Students waiting in line for food.

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