

Board moves forward with construction

By Linda Schneider
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With Cheylin School opening day on Monday and most policies and contracts in place, a large portion of the August Cheylin Board of Education meeting was centered on getting the McDonald cafeteria construction going.

David Wilson, architect and owner of W Design Associates, presented the McDonald plans and specification books to the members for authorization to proceed with the advertising for the construction bids on the improvements.

Mr. Wilson told the board that he had met with Dave Zumbahlen, past superintendent, Cheylin staff and students in April at the McDonald location to review their designs and receive direction concerning their plans.

Most of the construction and remodeling will be in the kitchen and concession area with new cabinets, moving the stove to a new location and adding more storage. There will also be demolition by the removing of walls, windows and building a ticket booth to eliminate the tables, chairs and meet the requirements from the fire marshal to clear the exit hall and doorways. By removing some of the old windows and replacing it with walls it will give the dining area more thermal protection.

Anita Pochop, board member, asked about adding new ceiling fans in the kitchen because the existing fans are old and not working well. Mr. Wilson said that adding the fans could be part of the electrical bidding. Dave Frisbie, president, said it should be done.

Adding a new dishwasher was discussed, but turned down by the members since there are going to be two large sinks built and plenty of students to do the washing.

"Every freshman and sophomore should experience cleaning a dirty chili pan once in their lifetime," said Mrs. Pochop.

Since basketball season is closing in, the board decided to start construction in March. Mr. Wilson suggested the advertising for construction bidding to begin in mid-November and submit the bids for the board final approval the first week in December.

Additional fees

Superintendent Bill Porter received notice of a price increase for the agreement for services with Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center. The increase went from \$88,742 to \$94,453, nearly \$6,000.

Board members discussed concern over just what the new services would be. Superintendent Porter said he would research it and bring his results to the September meeting.

However, Jane Young, district clerk, said the first installments of the payments had been made to secure the services that had been approved of at the June meeting. The board tabled the matter until the September meeting.

School is ready to open

The last of Cheylin school needs are in place. The board accepted the bid from Cash-Way Distributing to sell milk to Cheylin cafeteria for 2008-09 year. One percent white milk at \$.1078 per half pint; 2 percent white milk at \$.1131 per half pint; low-fat chocolate at \$.1108 per half pint, and \$.1183 for strawberry milk per half pint. Board approved the training

rules for high school football and junior high volleyball, with changes to the football rules to include students will be responsible for any loss and/or damage to uniforms. The volleyball rules already include the clause.

Superintendent Porter reported to the board that a State grant for pre-school would be difficult to get since hiring a certified teacher for just 12 hours a week would be hard to find. Therefore, he proposed that the board approve an application to Century II Development Foundation for a grant to have a pre-school. Motion approved.

He went on to say that in December, he would be talking with Head Start facilitators in St. Francis about looking into bringing the program to Bird City.

"It can't hurt just to get some information," said Lori Janicke, board member.

The board approved a supplemental contract for Jan Busse to the high school Scholar's Bowl. Deb Pochop was approved to assistant high school volleyball coach.

The faculty/staff handbook was approved minus the teacher evaluation report. Belinda Serrano, board member, suggested using the number system, one through five instead of checking "satisfactory, needs improvement, unsatisfactory."

James Milliken, city attorney, said that he has used the number system and it made it easier to add up at the end of the review. The matter was tabled until September meeting.

The board accepted the bid from Oneok Energy Marketing Company for \$8.70 (or daily market value once bid is locked in) per mm (million) british thermal unit (btu) for one year.

Budget meeting

The budget meeting that had been scheduled for Monday evening was rescheduled to 7 a.m. on Aug. 18.

Administrative and site reports

Superintendent Porter reported meeting with the Site Committee on Aug. 4, and their main concerns were about the pre-school program, food program and costs, non-nutritional food items in lunchroom and reported that Dan Carson will not be offering English as a Second Language class. Attendance was poor, but they will still have the Rosetta-Stone software available.

Superintendent Porter said he was looking into the costs involved with providing "seconds" at lunch; may consider dropping lunch seconds or charging extra for them. Some of the issues he would be looking into are how it would affect the reduced and free-lunch program and students who participate in after-school programs until as late as 6:30 p.m. without a snack.

Legal cases

Mr. Milliken reported that several cases have made decisions since last meeting. One involved the Social Rehabilitation Services that a father was responsible for paying back money for a student in Iowa.

Another decision came from the University of Kansas that involved an intoxicated student who fell out of a window in a school building and died. The university was found not guilty in the wrongful death claim filed his parents.

The next meeting will be Sept. 13.



BSB CONSTRUCTION CREW is laying the transfer pipes from one waste lagoon to the other. The crew has also laid down the rip-rap around the lagoons.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

Summer is over, school is starting

The Bird City swimming pool will be closed to the public on Saturday and Monday, Aug. 18, school will open.



School enrollment was held on Aug. 5 and 6. Those who missed enrolling their kids for school can still do so. Contact Loretta Rucker at 785-734-2341, for more information.

Monday will be a full-day attendance, 8:15 a.m. through 4:15 p.m., but no kindergarten class. On Tuesday, kindergarten will run half day, 8:15 a.m. through 12:15 p.m., Tuesday through Thursday for two weeks. They will have lunch then be dismissed.

The school is asking that a parent or responsible person pick up their kindergartner during this time. Kindergartners living in McDonald will be picked up on the regular bus route and dropped off after dismissal. If there is a question about

bussing, contact Randy Miller at 785-734-7118.

With student enrollment still on going, the total number of students are not known. Superintendent Bill Porter said as of the moment, Cheylin has enrolled four new students. After enrollment is complete, Cheylin will announce the numbers.

August calendar

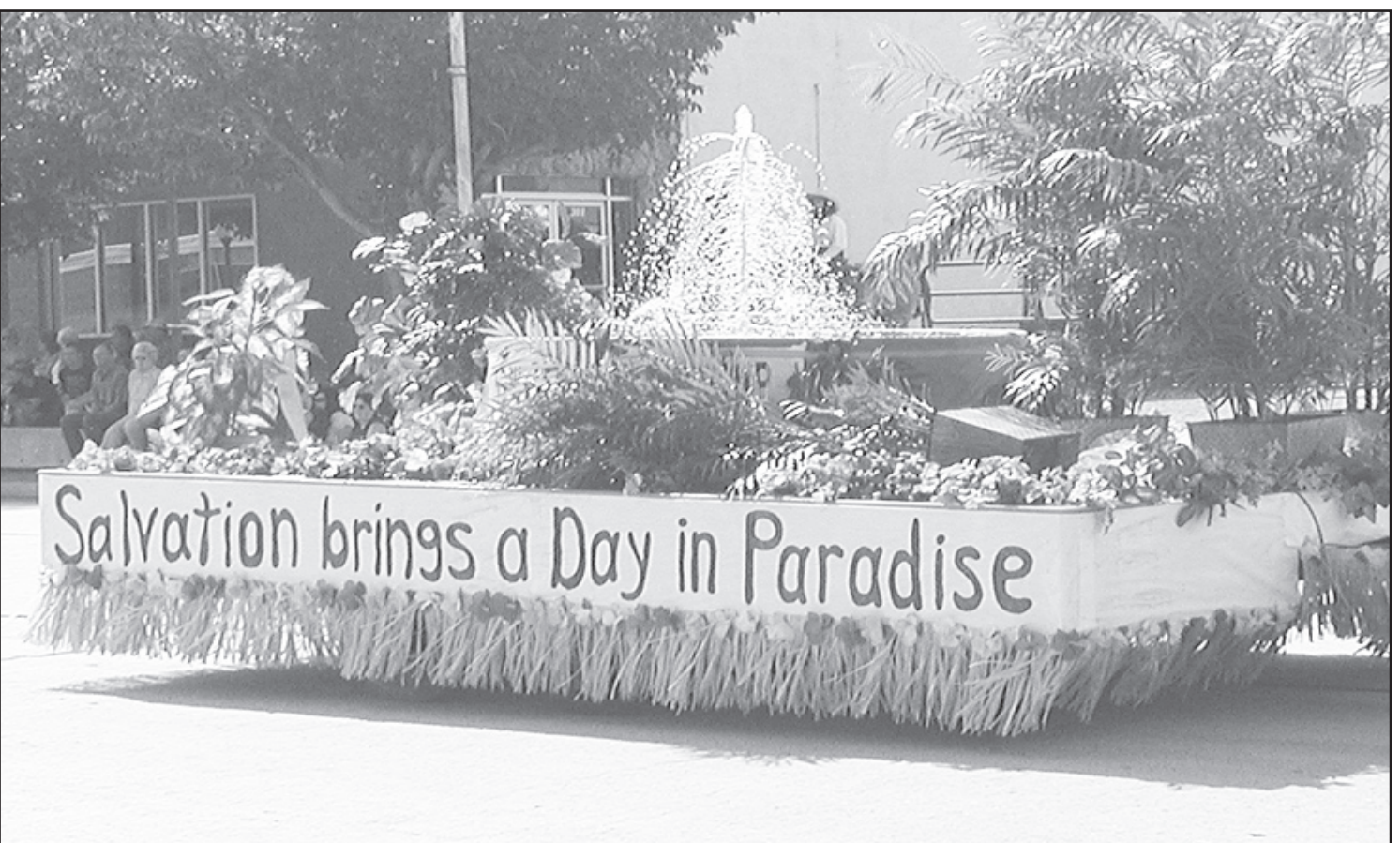
On the evening of Monday, Aug. 25, Cheylin School will be open for parents to look in their children's classes and an ice cream social will follow. At 7:30 p.m. on Friday,

Aug. 29, there will be a high school football and volleyball soap scrimmage.

Labor Day

There will be no school for all Cheylin students on Labor Day and for kindergartners, no school on Tuesday also. Kindergartners will return on Wednesday to full-day attendance from this day forward.

Parents can go online at <http://grades.cheylin.com> to get complete information about Cheylin's calendar of events.



LIVING WATER FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, Bird City, won first place in the Organization/Church Division at the Cheyenne County parade held on Saturday.

Times staff photo by Leslie McCormick

