

## Board gets updated on extra services

By Linda Schneider  
dublins@hotmail.com

The first Cheylin Board of Education meeting for the new school year was held Monday evening. Everything had been put into place in the August meeting, so the board had to tackle just a few issues.

Superintendent Bill Porter reported an update concerning the service price increase from \$88,742 to \$94,453 paid to the Northwest Kansas Educational Service Center.

The board had already approved payment, but wanted to know what the extra services were. Superintendent Porter said the services would be school-approved meetings with teachers to meet the school's Quality Performance Accreditation (QPA). Included in the increase was a \$2,000 annual membership fees to the Southwest Plains Regional Service Center. Superintendent Porter went on to say that the increase is being paid through a Federal Grant and not from the school's General Fund.

### Cheylin pre-kindergarten

With pre-school started on Tuesday, the board approved the pre-kindergarten staff contract with Darci Kehlbeck at \$15 per hour.

The board also approved Sharon Hendricks as the pre-kindergarten program certified coordinator at \$250 per semester. Superintendent Porter said Mrs. Hendricks was hired for the purposes of being an overseer of the program and her certification for liability and insurance.

### Students' requests

The board approved Whitney Haller's request for senior status; she is a junior, but has enough credits and will be graduating a year early. She will be able to participate as a senior for Homecoming, prom, annual yearbook and graduation. Her participation is on the condition that she receives passing grades each quarter in all subjects. In addition, she will be helping with fund raisers.

The board approved Jayden Cahoj's request to substitute World History with World Geography.

### School information

Board member Anita Pochop asked the school board to discuss several topics that staff had brought to her attention.

One of the topics was parents dropping off elementary students. Mrs. Pochop mentioned that there was a blind spot on

the south side of the crosswalk. It has been a problem for some time and what were some suggestions to change it?

Superintendent Porter mentioned dropping the students off at the back entrance. Board member Belinda Serrano suggested having someone at the crosswalk to monitor the students for safety, possibly a janitor. Board member Dale Hazuka went on to suggest that the Cheyenne County Sheriff Department could be approached with the request. No action was taken.

Another issue was the teacher's dress code. It dealt with teachers not being able to wear denim jeans and skirts. Superintendent Porter said he made that rule because teachers should dress professional at all times, even the coaches at sporting events. He further said that he told Dennis Hengen, industrial arts instructor, and Max Keltz, vo ag instructor, the school would purchase any apron or clothing cover they requested.

When mentioned about denim skirts, Superintendent Porter said that he felt it would be discrimination to allow the women teachers to wear them and not allow the men to wear denim jeans.

The final item discussed was the continuation of Teacher and Board Member Conference. The board will continue with the conferences with the next one at 4:30 p.m., Oct. 1 in the high school library. David Frisbie, president, Mr. Hazuka and board member, Doyle Bock, will oversee the conference.

### Additional information

The board approved:

- The part-time employee contract to employ Dixie Louderbaugh for McDonald site custodian for \$9.75 per hour, with George Louderbaugh abstaining.

- The purchase of seven document cameras for \$4,046. The cameras are used in the elementary school.

- The junior high football training rules to include the responsibility for reimbursement of loss or damage to uniforms.

- The high school volleyball training rules with changes to bring dates current.

- The bid from Norton Glass Company to fix the south doors on the cafeteria for approximately \$1,598.

### Next meeting

Next meeting board meeting will be held on Oct. 13.



CHEYLIN VARSITY PLAYERS Chris Walden blocks a Haxtun Bulldog to let Ethan Young run with the football. Varsity football story on page 5. Photo by Darci Shields

## Family Day is Sept. 22

Studies show that when parents sit down to a family dinner, it reduces the risk of substance abuse in the family.

Sitting together at the family dinner table may seem a little less common with the busy lives people lead these days. However, a family meal together helps cultivate an environment where parents can have a conversation with their children. Research done by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse at the Columbia University consistently finds that the more often children sit down to a meal with their parents, the less likely they are to smoke, drink or use drugs.

Kansas Family Partnership is implementing the Family Day campaign to help educate families and create awareness that by having regular conversations between parents/guardians, those conversations serve as a prevention tool to help safeguard Kansas youth.

Family Day is a nationwide initiative to show parental engagement is the single most potent weapon in preventing substance use and abuse among youths. It is celebrated the fourth Monday of each September, making Sept. 22, Family Day.

And Family Day is not just for families. Businesses, faith groups, law enforcement and schools are encouraged to engage in Family Day activities and celebrations.

As Sept. 22 approaches, think of ways to schedule more family time at the dinner table.



## Cheylin Menu

### Monday, Sept. 15

Breakfast: banana wraps, toast, assorted cereals, juice and milk

Lunch: chicken nuggets, baked potato, roll, salad bar, fruit and milk

### Tuesday, Sept. 16

Breakfast: cheese-ham hash browns, toast, assorted cereals, juice and milk

Lunch: ham and cheese squares, dessert, salad bar, fruit and milk

### Wednesday, Sept. 17

Breakfast: scrambled eggs, toast, assorted cereals, juice and milk

Lunch: hamburger steak, mash potatoes with gravy, bread, salad bar, fruit and milk

### Thursday, Sept. 18

Breakfast: ham casserole, toast, assorted cereals, juice and milk

Lunch: grill cheese, tomato soup, salad bar, fruit and milk



CHEYLIN FIFTH GRADER Elsa Craig Burr writes a letter while her teacher Cristi Antholz looks on. It is part of the contest to bring in the most post cards from different states.

## Students take part in post office contest

Letters are still very much alive. A letter has the power to express thoughts and feelings and touch loved ones in a way that is more memorable and lasting than any other forms of communications. In addition, letter writing helps promote literacy in our country. And the Postal Service delivers billions of them every year.

The Bird City Postmaster, Sonja Weeden, has started a writing contest between the fifth graders of Cheylin School and the fifth graders of Sacred Heart of Jesus Catholic School in Boulder, Colo.

Their teachers, Cristi Antholz

of Cheylin, and Laura Weeden of Sacred Heart, will teach the kids the right way of letter writing and addressing envelopes. They will be writing to family and friends in as many of the 50 states as they can to receive a post card back. The goal is to see which class receive the most post cards from the different states and the class with the most will get a party at the end of the contest. The contest started Sept. 1 and will go until Dec. 1.

"I encourage everyone to write a letter soon. Consider writing to a soldier, an old friend or a distant family member. They will greatly appreciate it," said Mrs. Weeden.



WHO SAYS WAITING IS BORING never asked a first grader! Kayla Bursch's first grade class makes a school nurse appointment a time for visiting, sharing books and

just plain having a good time. The nurse is checking their eyes, height and other basic measurements.

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider