

## Board hears about available scholarships



By Linda Schneider  
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The Board of Education meeting opened with Cathy Domsch, executive director Century II Development Foundation, presenting the Foundation's annual report for 2007, which included grants and scholarships.

### Scholarships and grants

Mrs. Domsch introduced to the members the newest scholarship, a Business Development Scholarship, which had a goal that would bring students back to work in the community for 3 years. She continued by saying the students would be required to sign a promissory note to return to Bird City or pay back the scholarship.

In addition, she updated the members on grants that were going to be structured for more long-term goals. Also, asking if the board had any plans or ideas for applying for a grant and adding that she would assist in developing those plans. No further discussion.

### Scholar Bowl

The board commended the high school Scholar Bowl team for placing second at the regional competition and qualifying for the state competition.

### School interpreter

The members approved the contract with Brenda Montero to be the school's interpreter for the remainder of the school year.

She is contracted for 12 weeks at \$11 an hour and she will also be available for parent and teacher conferences.

### Senior's request

Jayden Cahoj asked the members for their approval to participate on McDonald's Volunteer Fire Department. The request was to be able to leave the school grounds to respond to a fire alarm. He added that his parents, Jim and Kendall Cahoj, had given their approval.

Jayden said that his college major is fire fighting and there is only 38 school days left in

the year. Discussion followed concerning other students who may make the same request.

Don Orten, member, asked if anything like this had been done before and the answer was "no." More discussion followed with the board approving Jayden to leave school grounds to respond to a fire alarm.

Executive session was called for discussing non-elected personnel. No decision made.

### McDonald project

The members received three bids for construction and electrical work on the McDonald concession stand and rejected them all.

Since the decision to trim back the construction, members are now assessing what the priorities are and addressing one at a time.

The members tabled the matter until the next meeting, contingent on the rewording of the work that needed to be done.

Dave Frisbie, president, suggested meeting with the contractors at McDonald, do a walk through, discuss with them what the members want and then reopen the bidding. Members agreed it was a good idea.

### Student and faculty handbooks

The members spent the rest of the meeting putting into place changes of the student and faculty handbooks, and approving 2009-2010 school calendar.

The members discussed the two issues concerning the wording in both the handbooks, and assignment sheets. The junior and senior high and faculty assignment sheet will read as follows, "Assignment sheet must be turned in one hour prior to departure or at 4:15 p.m. if departure is prior to 8:50 a.m. the following morning."

The change in both handbooks concerning the Carpeted Classroom Rule is as follows, "All classrooms are allowed

to have food and drinks at the teacher's discretion. And it is the teacher's responsibility to supervise classroom cleanup."

The rules for the junior and senior high school cheerleaders and dance team were approved for 2009-2010 school year.

The board approved the golf and track team rules for 2008-2009 school year.

School will start Aug. 17 and the last day of school will be May 18. Moreover, the first semester will end before the Christmas break.

### Senior trip

The senior class presented the board members with the itinerary for the trip to Anaheim, Calif., on April 6. The itinerary was approved.

The group will be visiting several attractions in Anaheim; The Medieval Times Dinner House, Universal Studios, Sunset Strip sightseeing and museum, Pacific Aquarium, and dinner at Bubba Gumps.

They are also planning to visit the local beach and Santa Monica Pier amusement, shops and entertainment. Sponsors are Susan Jensen and Carol Partch.

### Miscellaneous items

Superintendent Bill Porter reported to the board that:

- Bleacher seats were bought for the football field, 16 seats for \$33 each.

- With the new website up, some of the lesson plans were not on line; however, Kirby Krien, computer technician, was on top of it.

- A new suburban van was needed to replace the one which was recently sold. Members agreed to accept Randy Miller's recommendation on the replacement.

- There was talk of a league merger with larger schools, the members said there were enough teams to play now and voted no on the merger.

- The draft for faculty and staff job descriptions was tabled until next meeting.



LOGAN MCCARTY, age 3, shows good form during the 3-on-3 basketball game last Saturday. It won't be long before he will be showing the older kids how to play!

Times staff photo by Linda Schneider

## Rental contract approved

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The Cheyenne County Fair Board was concerned with the exhibit building which is rented out at the fairgrounds. A good deal of their meeting was spent discussing the rent, upkeep and contracts for the exhibit building.

Gary Cooper, secretary, said the gas bill from 2008 was \$1,953, not including other utilities or the maintenance needed. The rent money taken in on the building for the same time was \$2,435.

"I am hoping with Karol (Lohman, board member) taking care of the renting, that a separate building rental records could be kept of the utilities used," Mr. Cooper said.

He went on to say he was not making a motion. It is community-owned and one of the few buildings the fair board has that can provide the space for large events. Brian Hobrock added that he was concerned the money received from renting the building would not cover the basic costs.

Dick Bursch, board president, mentioned that when he recently took the contractors over to measure the door that was being replaced, the building door was opened and the furnace was on. He said on other occasions he had inspected the building after an event and found the same situation — door was open and furnace was on.

He suggested that someone should check all the doors after each event. John Finley, member, said that he could walk by the buildings to check the doors. Members asked Mrs. Lohman to let Mr. Finley know when the renters would be gone and he could do the checking.

"What I am concerned about is that it takes seven rentals a year just to pay the gas bill," said Clay Zimelman, member.

Mr. Bursch said the building had been rented out several times last year without a signed contract and no money had been collected. The discussion led to the presentation of the Cheyenne County Commissioner's resolution that allows the sale of alcohol in the exhibit building at the fairground, at certain events by renters who have a liquor license.

### Rental contracts

Continued from last month's meeting, the members voted on the contract that had been drawn up by Kari Gilliland, county attorney. There are two rental agreements, one for the sale of alcohol and the other for private events in the exhibit building, both requiring a rental fee and damage deposit.

Both contracts were specific about liability and responsibility of damage to be signed by the renters. The refundable deposit for private events will stay the same at \$150, and events where alcohol is sold the deposit will be \$500. Before any deposit is refunded, an inspection of the building will be done.

The board approved both contracts with the addition of "county entities" to the exempt list that included: 4-H clubs, Cheyenne County Extension office and Cheyenne County-related fair board events.

It was also discussed that law enforcement officers patrol the area and if anyone is found consuming alcohol outside the exhibit building during either private or sale of alcohol events, the officers can take necessary steps to enforce the law.

## E-waste is on its way to Cheyenne County

E-waste is coming to Cheyenne County on Tuesday.

The Northwest Kansas Regional Recycling organization will soon be making a stop in St. Francis with their new e-waste collection trailer. The trailer will be located at the recycling center behind the museum in St. Francis on Tuesday. The collection will run from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

The recycling service is free to households, government offices and educational institutions located in Cheyenne, Decatur, Gove, Logan, Rawlins, Scott, Sheridan and Thomas counties. Recycling fees apply to all businesses and organizations.

Anyone located outside the listed counties may use the e-waste recycling service but recycling fees will apply.

The fees are \$2 per microwave oven; \$5 per computer monitor; \$10 per television; and 10-cents

per pound (maximum \$20 per item) for all other e-waste.

Items that may be brought to the collection include: desktop computers, laptop computers, personal data assistants, CRT and LCD computer monitors, computer accessories and parts, printers, scanners, copy machines, fax machines, telephones, cellular phones, answering machines, pagers, televisions, DVD and VCR players, satellite receivers (no dishes), stereos, radios (any type), iPods, MP3 players, speakers, tape recorders, calculators, adding machines, hand-held and console game systems, game cartridges, toner and inkjet cartridges, rechargeable batteries and microwave ovens.

Future collections will be announced. For more information, call 785-460-1840 or 332-5011.

## Learn about livestock

A swine and beef clinic will be held starting at 10 a.m. on Saturday, March 21, at the St. Francis Equity meeting room, 123 N. River Street, St. Francis.

Guest speaker Danielle Stout, graduate of Oklahoma State University, has been the speaker at multiple show clinics and offers a wealth of knowledge on improving livestock projects. Ms. Stout was a member of the university's livestock judging team. She has a long history of livestock showing in both the beef and swine arenas where she was highly successful. Those who want to be in the winner's

circle should plan to attend.

Steve Parks will be introducing a show feed supplement and feeds. He will be detailing how these products can enhance livestock projects feeding and nutritional needs. Special orders will be taken after the meeting.

Other topics to be covered at the clinic include: selection, showmanship, feeding, care and management of the animals.

"The Road to the Winners Circle" is presented by the St. Francis Equity and they will be providing a free lunch at noon. For more information, contact the Equity at 785-332-2113.



Busse Cahoj Bannister Sager Keithline Walden

## Students receive scholarships

Sydney Busse of Cheylin High School, Amanda Nipps, Sam Sowers and Courtney Douthit of St. Francis Community High School, Debra Bannister, Jayden Cahoj, Jay Keithline, Tia Sager and Amanda Walden of Cheylin and Tyler Larson and Ethan Zweggardt of St. Francis have received Dane G. Hansen Foundation Scholarships as they prepare to further their education next fall.

Busse has received one of 50 Hansen Scholar awards. These awards are for \$3,000 for one year and may be renewed for one additional year, provided the student has continued regard for the principles which guided the success of the late Dane G. Hansen, maintains a 3.00 or better grade-point average at the college level and furnishes a letter describing progress toward educational goals.

Nipps has received one

of 15 Community College scholarships. These awards are made available to Kansas Community College students of the current school year who plan to continue their education at a four-year Kansas college or university. These awards are for \$2,000 and may be renewed for one year upon completion of satisfactory work as evaluated by the Scholarship Committee.

Sowers and Douthit have each received one of the 100 Hansen Student awards. These awards are for \$2,000, and may be renewed for one additional year provided the student has maintained a satisfactory academic record.

Bannister, Cahoj, Keithline, Sager, Walden, Larson and Zweggardt are seven of 91 students interested in vocational training who have received a one-year award of \$2,000 each.

The Hansen Foundation also awarded 10 Hansen Leader of Tomorrow scholarships, for \$5,000 renewable for three additional years, provided the student has continued regard for the principles which guided the success of the late Dane G. Hansen, maintains a 3.99 or better grade-point average at the college level and furnishes a letter describing progress toward educational goals.

These St. Francis and Cheylin high school graduates are among 250 high school seniors and nine community college students from 61 northwest Kansas high schools who have received scholarships from the foundation.

In selecting award winners, the Scholarship Committee considered proficiency in verbal and writing skills. Other important factors are academic records, test scores, and community service in which the student may have participated.

