

Coaching concerns are main topic

Jolene Reeh, Max Keltz, and Anthony Blair attended the Cheylin School Board meeting on Sept. 10, with concerns for the number of coaches needed for the junior high and high school track. One coach for basketball, volleyball and football works because it is all confined to one spot.

They said with track the large area containing several different events at the same time, made it impossible for them to provide the proper monitoring to all the students participating in track. If they practice wrong no one is available to help them correct what they are doing.

They also pointed out none of the other sports ask the participant to train on their own. Reducing the track staff to two coaches would be a disservice to the other students.

After a lengthy executive discussion it was decided to approve the contracts for Max Keltz to serve as head high school track coach; Jolene Reeh as assistant high school track coach, and Anthony Blair as assistant high school track coach.

Bruce Bolen, superintendent, will advertise for an assistant junior high track coach before any junior high track coaching assignment is approved.

The supplemental contracts for Amy McCarty as assistant high school volleyball coach, and Lincoln Pochop as assistant junior high football coach for the new school year were approved.

Pre-school program

A grant from Bird City Century II Development Foundation to

fund the Pre-School Program for the 2012-2013 school year was approved.

Salary change

Deanna Nelsen's elementary secretary position will be changed from an hourly position to a salaried position.

In other business

In other business:

- The substitute teacher list for the 2012-2013 school year was approved.

- The Electronic Key Policy was approved as presented.

- The charge of \$1 for students who wish to have seconds at lunch was approved.

- New lights have been installed in the bus barn along with a plug-in for the power washer. The area where the lawn was torn up this summer has been prepared and will be seeded in the near future.

- Hal Antholz reported the football field scoreboard was not working properly and he would like to check into getting enough interest from businesses to donate toward the purchase of a new scoreboard. In return the business would have their name placed beneath the scoreboard.

- Approximately 20 monitors, towers, printers and televisions were taken to Colby to the recycling center.

Next meeting

Jane Young, district clerk, will be out of town on the Nov. 12, meeting date, so the regular meeting date, will be moved to Monday, Nov. 19.

Editor's note: This report was taken from the unapproved Board of Education minutes.



BRAD SCHNEIDER, Russell Jackson and Roy Shrader replacing the three-quarter inch water line with one-inch pipe. Times staff photo by Norma Martinez



Fall crop harvest several weeks earlier than normal

By Tim Burr

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As it was with the 2012 wheat harvest, the 2012 fall harvest in Cheyenne County has arrived several weeks earlier than normal.

Although most irrigated corn fields are not yet dry enough to pick and store, there have been several fields of high-moisture corn picked and delivered to local feedlots. There has been some spot cutting of milo near Bird City, and a few fields of soybeans have been harvested. Quality of these early fields has been reported as better than expected, although not enough has been harvested to determine any yields.

The continuing drought has certainly taken a toll on the crops. In every part of the county, withered and stunted fields are quite visible. Many corn and milo fields, which were planted in the spring with the intention of harvest for grain, have been chopped for ensilage or swathed to be baled for cattle feed. Many fields may be abandoned.

Even on irrigated fields, it is a concern of many producers that the hot and dry conditions this growing season, especially during the pollinating period, affected the ability of the plant to produce grain. Producers always look forward to the harvest season, but most feel that this will be a challenging harvest.

Nationwide, crops have been affected by growing conditions, and yield expectations are low. The commodities futures markets reflect this information, as grain prices, especially soybeans, are at near record highs.

The markets are extremely volatile, as any report or rumor of moisture or yield change results in



ONE OF THE MANY fields of distressed corn in the county. Times staff photo by Tim Burr

wild swings in the marketplace.

"High prices are great, but it doesn't mean anything if you don't raise any bushels to sell," said Bob Ochsner, grain producer.

The middle of September is also the usual time for wheat farmers to begin planting winter wheat. The dry conditions have most farmers concerned that the ground doesn't contain enough moisture to allow

the wheat kernel to sprout after it has been planted.

"We've waited for rain about as long as we can. It's time to be planting," said Cliff Raile, farmer.

Conditions are dry, but most farmers are going to be forced to "dust it in," in hope there is enough moisture to sprout the wheat, and, as always, pray for rain.

Benefit concert planned for Saturday to help music program

The Tumbleweed Chorus will be presenting a benefit concert Saturday, Sept. 22, at Cheylin High School. The Adopt-A-School program will benefit the music program at Cheylin, for the purpose of purchasing instruments for new students to use in the band.

The Tumbleweed Chorus is the

Colby chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society. The concert will feature both choral songs, as well as those sung by a quartet. In addition Cheylin students and patrons will be joining the Tumbleweed Chorus for several songs.

The concert is to be preceded by a meal at the Cheylin Schools

cafeteria in Bird City commencing at 5:30 p.m. The Tumbleweed Chorus will match funds raised by the event up to \$500.

"It is really becoming a problem finding horns for our incoming students to use, said Rose Hengen, music instructor. "We appreciate the opportunity to be an adopted school."



CHEYLIN FIRST GRADERS experienced real typing on 'home row' with the introduction of the F and J keys. Times photo by Susan Jensen