

# School board to wait on increases

By Karen Krien  
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It was still over a week before the final count of students would be official but, as of the St. Francis Board of Education meeting on Thursday, Sept. 12, it appeared that the enrollment would be down by only one full-time student.

Rob Schiltz, superintendent, said a lot could happen between now and Sept. 20 when the official enrollment count is made. On Thursday morning, three students were enrolled and would start the following Monday.

Even with the expected enrollment about the same last year's 293 students, Mr. Schiltz said he could not recommend that the board give salary increases this year.

I have talked to Ward Cassidy (120 District Representative), Mr. Schiltz said. He said that the legislature is planning to "hammer" education this year. Revenue is down across the state, he said.

In the past, the board has given salary adjustments to the staff if there is money available. I would like to wait until the end of the year before we make the decision on the adjustments, Mr. Schiltz said. The board agreed.

**Memorial gift**  
Jared Douthit, St. Francis, had made a visit to the board meeting, handing Mr. Schiltz a check for \$4,125 in memory of his father, Roger Douthit. The money was designated to be used in the vocational ag department.

**Bus**  
When the bills were approved, Mr. Schiltz pointed out several payments that had been made including some for activity bus repairs. Last spring, the bus had hit a deer and the insurance had picked up all but \$500. They had some repairs by Coach Master for \$7,349. The bus was taken to Holyoke and it was discovered that either the repairs had not been made correctly or there were more problems.

"It is a money pit," Mr. Schiltz said. It is back to the repair shop.

Mr. Schiltz also pointed out that \$16,700 had been paid for 60 Chrome Books. The computers in the two computer labs, one in the elementary and the other

in the junior-senior high, are not in good shape, he said. The administration is considering replacing these computers with Chrome Books.

The problem with Chrome Books is the battery life is only three years. As the board discussed the issues, Mary Beth Miller, board member, said that keeping up with technology is important and said that is probably just something that needed to be built into the budget.

"It is the cost of doing business," she said.

The computer costs come out of the capital outlay fund.

**Health insurance**  
The school's health insurance is Blue Cross-Blue Shield. Premiums had gone up again. To help employees with the added cost, Superintendent Schiltz suggested that the board pay an

additional \$30 on a single plan and \$60 on a family plan. This cost per year would be \$13,680. The school now pays a total of \$173,280.

The board talked about the changes in insurance plans in the future. Mr. Schiltz had talked to the insurance representative. She said that school will probably be "grandfathered in," and the cost of their insurance will probably be an average of 5 years. No one really knows for sure what will happen, Mr. Schiltz said.

The board will decide on the added money to help with insurance cost when they meet in October.

**In other business**  
In other business:  
• The board approved for Jake Rath and James Kehl to be allowed to attend St. Francis schools. The tuition will be waived.

• Teachers, Steve Jenkins and Lisa Gibson, had earned additional college hours and they were advanced on the salary schedule.

• Matt Bandel was approved to fill the high school girls' assistant basketball coaching position. The position was vacated by David Morrow, who is now the junior-senior high principal.

**Next meeting**  
The next board meeting is set for 7 p.m. on Thursday, Oct. 10, in the board room at the high school. Also scheduled on Oct. 10 is a junior high football and volleyball game as well as a homecoming bonfire. The games are at home so the board thought they would be over before the board meeting and that the meeting could be over by 8:15 when the bonfire is scheduled to begin. The meeting will be held as scheduled.

## Residents must call for pick up

The city of St. Francis is having a fall cleanup.

Those residents having items to be picked up during the cleanup need to call the power plant at 332-3031 between 7:30 a.m. to noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, before the Oct. 11 deadline. Those calling should not leave cleanup requests on the answering machine as they will not be picked up. Instead, talk to the dispatcher. Requests can be called in Monday through Friday.

This service is free. Anyone calling after the deadline of Oct. 11 will need to wait until next fall's cleanup and will need to call again before the next cleanup.

All items will need to be ready for pickup no later than 8 a.m. on Thursday, Oct. 17.

### Necessary to call

Without a call the city crew is not authorized to pick up items, even if they are beside the trash container. Items to be hauled away must be accessible - next to the alley or street and not behind fences,

bushes, utility meters or poles.

Mixed piles can not be picked up. Sort items in separate piles of metal, tires, concrete, furniture and lumber too large to go into trash containers and tree branches.

The sorting of materials is necessary because one of the goals of the cleanup is to decrease the rate the solid waste pit fills up and to recycle as much as possible.

The city is no longer able to pick up chemicals, paint, batteries, yard waste or any petroleum products.

City cleanup is for household cleanup for residents only. Contractors or citizens who have done construction, demolition, remodeling or renovation are expected to haul materials to the landfill. The city reserves the right to refuse to pick up on site.

The cleanup will require several days to complete, please be patient.

The St. Francis City Council encourages citizens to take this opportunity to make the city an even more beautiful place to live.

## Junior varsity gets football victory

By Douglas Sloper  
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On Monday night, Sept. 9, the St. Francis Junior Varsity Indians came away with a convincing victory at Holyoke, defeating the Dragons 22-8.

After a scoreless first quarter, the Indians put the first points on the board in the second quarter when quarterback Quinton Cravens hit Lane Hobrock with a 22 yard pass. Fullback Justin Pacheco ran in the extra point and the Indians were up 8-0. The Indians scored again later

on a fake field goal, and Garrett Brunk ran 65 yards for the Indians second score. The extra point was missed and the half ended with St. Francis up 14-0.

Holyoke scored in the 3rd quarter to slice the Indians lead to 14-8.

St. Francis put the game away in the 4th quarter when Garrett Brunk scampered into the end zone from 27 yards out. Quinton Cravens hit Lane Hobrock for the extra point putting the Indians up 22-8.

## Hospital partners in health week

This September, Cheyenne County Hospital, as a partner in the advancement of health information technology to help improve healthcare, joined approximately 200 public and private sector organizations to participate in the eighth National Health IT Week Sept. 16-20. This special week is the premier event offering all healthcare stakeholders an opportunity to unite under one banner, expressing the benefits that health information technology brings to U.S. healthcare "One Voice, One Vision."

"Comprehensive health care reform is not possible without system-wide adoption of health information technology, which improves the quality of healthcare delivery," said Reid Raile, the hospital's information technology director. "It also increases patient safety, decreases medical errors, and strengthens the interaction between patients and healthcare providers."

With "Meaningful Use" now providing the way forward, eligible providers across the country increasingly understand the benefits for themselves and their patients, and are adopting Meaningful Use compliant electronic health records.

Initiated in 2006 by the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society, National Health IT Week has emerged as a landmark occasion for using health information technology as part of the overall solution to improve America's healthcare as a bipartisan, federally led, market driven initiative.

The week consists of events in Washington, D.C., and across the country, including participants vendors, provider organizations,

pharmaceutical/biotech companies, government agencies, industry/professional associations, research foundations, and consumer protection groups- all working together to elevate national attention to the advantages of advancing health information technology.

Working together with our growing coalition of stakeholders, Mr. Raile said, the hospital is helping to transform healthcare for all.

## Junior high football team dominates game

The Saint Francis Junior High Indians continued their winning ways last Thursday, blanking the Leoti Indians 48-0 in a surprise 8 man contest. Just minutes before the game began St. Francis was informed that Leoti only played 8 man football. Making the last minute adjustments and playing on a wet and soggy Greene field didn't faze the Indians. The game was over by half time, as the 45 point rule was enforced and the Indians were again victorious. Coach

Busse was pleased with the team's efforts, "We were glad to get the win, but we are really looking forward to working hard at practice to get better."

The Indians next game will be on September 16 at Wray against the Eagles at 5:00 p.m.



## St. Francis Community High School class officers —



**SENIOR CLASS officers, above, (l to r) Aly Schlepp, vice president; Bailey Merklin, president; Rande Grover, secretary-treasurer.**



**JUNIOR CLASS officers, left, (l to r) Ashlee Orth, secretary-treasurer; Kyla Bandel, vice president; Cade Bracelin, president.**



**SOPHOMORE CLASS officers, right, (l to r) Jason Owens, secretary-treasurer; Peyton Beims, vice president; Travis Rogers, president.**



**FRESHMAN CLASS officers, below, (l to r) Josh Koger, vice president; Quinton Cravens, secretary-treasurer; Taylor Rogers, president.**

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