

# Students learning to cook



LIFESKILLS STUDENTS learn to make cinnamon rolls in Mrs. O'Brien's class. Pictured above (l to r) Jakob Church, Clay Cassaw and Lane Hobrock are cutting up and putting the rolls in the pan to bake. Pictured to the left is Seth Hart washing the dishes.

Herald staff photos by Karen Krien

## Board does not give salary increase

By Karen Krien

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The St. Francis Board of Education met Thursday to discuss salary increases and the increase in health insurance premiums. In the end, the board agreed not to give salary increases but to up the amount paid on insurance premiums.

The enrollment is up slightly, said Rob Schiltz, superintendent, but, with the school finance in Kansas still uncertain and will probably remain that way, I cannot recommend an increase in employee salaries at this time.

John Knodel, board member, said he felt that it was a smart move to wait and see what we have at the end of the school year. Mr. Schiltz and the board had also talked about giving a one-time salary adjustment at that time. This is the third year that St. Francis teachers have not received a salary adjustment.

The board then turned to look at the increase in the Blue Cross Blue Shield health insurance. At the last meeting, Mr. Schiltz had suggested putting an extra \$40 to a single plan and and \$80 to other plans. This would mean that the school would pay \$315 per month instead of \$275 per month toward a single plan. Those with other plans would receive \$630 instead

of \$550 per month.

Since the new plan year begins Nov. 1, the board agreed to the additional amount paid on the premiums.

### Official enrollment

"Count Day," where all school's turn their official enrollment into the state, was Sept. 20, which was after the last board meeting.

Mr. Schiltz said the enrollment on the 20th showed four students more than last year. Actually, he said, it was 14 above what he had expected as, in year's past, the enrollment had dropped around 10 students each year. The St. Francis schools showed 300 student with 150 students in the elementary, 47 students in the junior high, and 103 in the high school.

Interesting facts showed the second grade having 19 boys and five girls for a total of 24 students. The sixth grade has 12 boys and 6 girls; the seventh grade has 18 boys and 10 girls; ninth grade has 17 boys and seven girls; 10th grade has 18 boys and 8 girls; and the senior class has 17 boys and nine girls. Overall, there are 178 boys in the schools and 122 girls.

### Classification

According to the Kansas State High School Activities Association, the St. Francis high school once again fell in the 2A Division. Several years ago, the school was

classified as 1A because of the division numbers.

Class 1A schools are those with 15 to 75 students in grades 10, 11 and 12. In the 2A Division, student numbers range from 76 to 121 students. Area schools in 2A include Atwood-Rawlins County with 81 students; Oakley, 112 students; Oberlin-Decatur Community, 83; St. Francis, 78; and WaKeeney-Trego Community, 88. There are five schools in 2A with less students than St. Francis.

Bird City-Cheylin in 1A has 38 students in the top three grades; Brewster, 26; Hoxie, 64; Quinter, 71; and Sharon Springs-Wallace County, 48. Goodland, in 3A, has 171 students and Colby, in 4A, has 240 students.

### Job description

Sharon Olofson, district book-keeper and payroll supervisor, along with being the secretary and reception in the superintendent's office and the clerk of the board, will be retiring. Because of the responsibility of position, the superintendent worked with Mrs. Olofson to reach a job description and an advertisement.

The board agreed to run the ad in all local newspapers and it be placed on the school's website along with the job description. Look for the ad in this issue in the classified section.

### Committee report

Mr. Schiltz talked about his appointment on the Kansas Association of School Board's Legislative Finance Committee. He had attended the first meeting on Oct. 1 and found it to be extremely interesting.

The committee, he said, is to help legislators make informed decisions. Talking with other superintendents and board members, he found that, whether the school is big or small, they all have problems they are trying to solve.

Mr. Schiltz is of the opinion that changing the funding formula for education will not help the financial situation for schools.

### In other business

In other business:  
• A gift-offer of \$653.80 from NexTech Wireless' school rebate program was accepted.

• The board approved a contract for Tanner Kinen to be the high school assistant boys' basketball coach. He will replace Devin Dinkel, who resigned last year, and will work with head coach, Jeff Beims.

### Next meeting

The next St. Francis Board of Education meeting will be held at 7 p.m. on Thursday, Nov. 11, at the high school.

## Groups gather items for service personnel

In just four weeks the American Legion Auxiliary and the Lawn Ridge 4-H club will again gather items...many items...and money like they have in the past years to bring some joy to service personnel in the war zones.

Residents all know it is tough going for them but they continue to do a great job in keeping American's safe, so open your hearts

and pocketbooks to bring them a bit of packaged love from home by sending as many Christmas boxes as possible again.

Children can make cards, write letters or make it a class project to be a part of this program.

"Let's make it the best year ever," said coordinators, Hulda Dorsch and Christy Wurm.

## Annual meeting held

The Cheyenne County Development Corporation (CCDC) held its annual public meeting on Tuesday, Oct. 12, at noon, at the St. Francis Public Library. Ten members of the public were welcomed by President Myra Hyde. The corporation's coordinators are Chuck and Diane Kribs, who work very hard for Cheyenne County. They are willing to discuss any business ideas and suggestions the public has.

The minutes from the Oct. 15, 2009, annual public meeting were approved. The financial informa-

tion provided by was also reviewed and approved. The coordinators reviewed the projects and accomplishments of the corporation. The members of the public discussed economic development efforts and commended the coordinators for their work on the county's behalf.

A 2011 goal was noted: Review and update the Cheyenne County Strategic Plan.

After the open form for comments from the board and members of the public in attendance, the meeting was adjourned.

## Public Notice Constitutional Amendments on the 2010 Ballot in Kansas

Be it resolved by the Legislature of the State of Kansas, two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the Senate and two-thirds of the members elected (or appointed) and qualified to the House of Representatives concurring therein:

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT QUESTION NO. 1

A PROPOSITION to amend section 4 of the Bill of Rights of the Constitution of the State of Kansas relating to the right to bear arms.

**Section 1.** The following proposition to amend the Constitution of the State of Kansas shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the state for their approval or rejection: Section 4 of the bill of rights of the constitution of the state of Kansas is hereby amended to read as follows:

"§ 4. **Individual right to bear arms; armies.** The people have the right to bear arms for their defense and security. A person has the right to keep and bear arms for the defense of self, family, home and state, for lawful hunting and recreational use, and for any other lawful purpose; but standing armies, in time of peace, are dangerous to liberty, and shall not be tolerated, and the military shall be in strict subordination to the civil power."

**Section 2.** The following statement shall be printed on the ballot with the amendment as a whole:

"*Explanatory statement.* The purpose of this amendment is to preserve constitutionally the right of a person to keep and bear arms for the defense of self, family, home and state, and for all other lawful purposes, including hunting and recreation.

"A vote for this amendment would constitutionally preserve the right of a person to keep and bear arms for the defense of self, family, home and state, and for lawful hunting and recreational use, and for any other lawful purpose. A vote against this amendment would provide for no constitutional right of a person to keep and bear arms for the defense of self, family, home and state, and for lawful hunting and recreational use, and for any other lawful purpose."

### CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT QUESTION NO. 2

A PROPOSITION to amend section 2 of article 5 of the Constitution of the State of Kansas, relating to qualification of voters.

**Section 1.** The following proposition to amend the Constitution of the State of Kansas shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the state for their approval or rejection: Section 2 of article 5 of the constitution of the state of Kansas is hereby amended to read as follows:

"§ 2. **Disqualification to vote.** The legislature may, by law, exclude persons from voting because of mental illness or commitment to a jail or penal institution. No person convicted of a felony under the laws of any state or of the United States, unless pardoned or restored to his civil rights, shall be qualified to vote."

**Section 2.** The following statement shall be printed on the ballot with the amendment as a whole:

"*Explanatory statement.* This amendment would repeal the authority of the legislature to exclude persons with mental illness from voting.

"A vote for this amendment would ensure that the right to vote for persons with mental illness cannot be taken away by the legislature. A vote against this amendment would continue the current authority of the legislature to take away the right to vote for persons with mental illness."

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