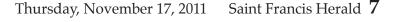




GATHERING FOOD -

with the holidays approaching different groups have been collecting food items. Top: (l to r) Jasper Hunt, Hannah Zimbal, Audrey Meyer, Mayve Elkins, Mia Morrow and Shannon Semler sort canned goods; Bottom: Bonnie Cram puts a can of food into the box held by Hannah Wolff and Jenna Confer.



Board explains emergency plan

By Karen Krien

karen.k@nwkansas.com The schools' emergency management plan was explained when the St. Francis Board of Education met Thursday evening.

Rob Schiltz, superintendent, said with all that is happening in schools across the nation and since the fire at the nursing home, it is good that the emergency management plan is gone over once a year. This way, teachers know what the plan is.

Each room has a red notebook, most of the time, located on the back of the door. There are rules to follow in the case of a lockdown. The evacuation procedures make sure all students are accounted for.

Mr. Schiltz and Scott Carmichael, principal, had spend time making up the book. It was noted that if there is a lockdown, cell phone calls are not allowed. There could be more problems with parents and others on the outside and what is going on in the inside.

Hopefully, he said, the plan will never need to be used but it is in place in case it is needed.

Derrick Tice, board member, asked if the new art building had a similar plan. Mr. Schiltz said Mary Beikman, teacher, has a cell phone and will follow the same procedures that the rest of the school does.

Kelly Gienger, board member, said that his wife, Penny, while substituting in another town, had asked about the emergency plan and was told there was no plan in place. Mr. Schiltz said he had made a good point and that all substitute teachers should know the plan and procedures.

Mila Bandel, board member, asked if the law enforcement and emergency manager had a copy of the plan. Mr. Schiltz said they did and they also had a map of the facility and are familiar with the layout of the schools.

Assessment awards

Superintendent Schiltz talked about the 2011 Kansas Assessments Standard of Excellence Awards recently received from the Kansas State Department of Education. St. Francis students in third, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth and 11th had received Standard of Excellence Awards in reading and math; and in science, grade 11 had received the award.

"I am proud of the kids and staff on how well they performed on the tests," Mr. Schiltz said.

There are changes coming in the way students will be tested. When the information is set, Mr. Schiltz will be talking more about it.

In other business

• The board accepted a gift-offer from Nex-Tech Wireless in the amount of \$842.

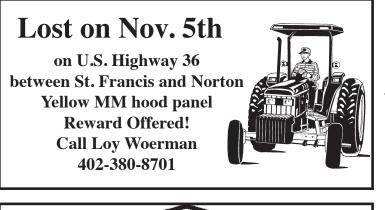
• The audit report for fiscal year 2011, prepared by Adams, Brown, Beran and Ball audit company, was accepted.

• Mr. Schiltz told the board about the trip the St. Francis eighth graders had taken to Topeka, with money donated by the Hanson Foundation. See related article.

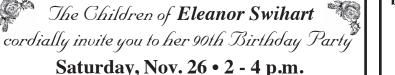
• The board accepted a resignation from Jeff Beims who is resigning his position as the junior high football coach. Mr. Beims held the coaching position for 20 years.

• The school policies concerning student transportation and the use of school buses by the community were discussed. It was noted that the bus is not to pick up students living less that 2.5 miles from the school. Concerning renting out the buses, Mr. Schiltz said that if it is through the Recreation Commission or if a bus is needed to take community members or parents to a school function, he will consider it.

• An iPad and iPod were purchased for the Title I department with Knights of Columbus donations.







Fellowship Building McDonald Federated Church McDonald, Ks

Please Come, "Sit a spell," Talk about the "good old



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