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## School board approves wireless access

**By Kayla Cornett**  
*Colby Free Press*  
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The Colby Public Schools board of education approved a wireless network for the whole district, nine new computers for the Colby Grade School library and teacher laptop computers on Monday during a regular meeting.

Superintendent Terrel Harrison recommended this change to the capital outlay plan, which would be installing a wireless network in the entire district, about 120 access points, rather than at just the high school.

She said they had planned to install wireless at the high school, which was on this year's budget for \$75,000, but the Kansas Learning Network's requirements include structured walk-throughs. She said these walk-throughs will require wireless access in all of the buildings, everywhere. Plus, she said, the schools are using more laptops, iPads, etc. so they are needing more wireless access for that as well.

"I know that's more expense," Harrison said, "but we have saved money in other ways, so I think this is a good year to go about it and not just do the high school."

She said she talked with Phil DeYoung,

technology coordinator, and decided that this job would be completed outside the district, meaning they would bid it out to other firms.

DeYoung said the equipment is furnished by state contract so it doesn't have to be bid out, and he's hoping they can keep the actual cost of wiring below the \$20,000 threshold. However, he said it's not as big a project as the wiring they've done in the past.

Harrison said they wanted to do the wiring in July or August.

Harrison mentioned other changes to the plan that they hope to complete, such as replacing the computers in the grade

school library, but said they were able to complete four of their areas with last year's budget money.

She said between the original plan and the revised plan, they would have a savings of over \$341,183 so the total for the two years would be about \$790,000.

In other business, the board:

- Approved a 360 Energy Engineers preliminary engineering audit. Western Kansas Business Development Manager Scott Strom had presented to the board on the audit on May 21 that could be conducted at no cost to the district. The purpose of this audit would be to identify

specific energy saving options.

Brice Barton said he had talked with Strom, and said he satisfied most of his questions. He said he's a little concerned about their management of subcontractors because they're a small company of about eight. However, Strom assured Barton that they would have a construction manager, which Barton said could lead to problems with subcontractors' performances.

Brice then said he asked Strom to send all the documents the board would need to sign for the audit to make sure their

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## Dow leaps, is on track for day of gains

**By Matthew Craft**  
*AP Business Writer*

NEW YORK — An early 200-point charge turned the Dow Jones industrial average positive for the year following a dismal stretch in May.

The Dow surged 211 points to 12,340 shortly after noon Eastern. That's an increase of 1.7 percent.

All 30 Dow stocks were higher, led by Bank of America, up 7 percent. The last time the Dow gained more than 200 points was March 13.

The big jump follows weeks of losses, including a 275-point plunge last Friday set off by a surprisingly weak reading on the U.S. job market. Jim Russell, chief equity strategist at U.S. Bank Wealth Management in Cincinnati, Ohio, said it's natural for the market to have a strong day after an extend-

ed beat-down.

"In market language, it's called a technical bounce," he said. "It's consistent with a 'relief rally.' There's no bad news today, so the market goes up. Frankly, it's that simple."

The Standard & Poor's 500 rose 23 points to 1,308. The Nasdaq composite rose 57 points to 2,835.

The gains were broad. Just 14 stocks in the the S&P 500 companies dropped, and every industry group in the index rose, led by energy companies and financial firms. More than eight stocks rose for every one that fell on the New York Stock Exchange.

The dollar fell and Treasury yields rose as investors moved money out of defensive investments. The yield on the bench-

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## Army veterans use film class as therapy

**By P. Solomon Banda**  
*Associated Press*

FORT CARSON, Colo. — With a growing demand for ways to treat the psychological damage of war, one Army pilot project is offering therapy for post-traumatic stress disorder by encouraging soldiers to take control of their own stories in a filmmaking class titled I Was There Media Workshop.

The Fort Carson program began last year, under the auspices of Ben Patton, a New York documentary filmmaker and a grandson of Gen. George S. Patton, and Scott Kinnamon, a Denver educational filmmaker. Some 20 veterans of the Iraq and Afghanistan wars so far have attempted to organize their combat experiences in video as a way to fight PTSD.

"You can put everything into a video or a movie, a small movie

about what you want to tell people — your story," said 1st Sgt. Jason Gallegos of Fountain, Colo., who deployed to Iraq three times and has now produced a short film called "From Hero to Zero."

Some 2.3 million men and women have served tours of duty in Iraq and Afghanistan in the past decade. The Rand Corp. said as many as 300,000 veterans of those wars may have suffered PTSD or major depression. The Pentagon and the Veterans Affairs Department have been ramping up therapy options for several years now and the effort continues as some troops continue to go undiagnosed or untreated.

Gallegos was a tank commander in Iraq and vividly recalls what he felt after his first engagement with insurgents in 2003. He or-

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## Wheat harvest moves into northwest Kansas

WICHITA (AP) — The combines are now rolling in northwestern Kansas as the 2012 winter wheat harvest spreads to the farthest corners of the state.

The Kansas Grain and Feed Association, in conjunction with other industry groups, reported Tuesday that farmers in Trego County began cutting over the weekend and are finding the crop better than expected. The Frontier Ag elevator in Wa-Keeney is reporting test weights

ranging from 60 to 65 pounds a bushel.

In north-central Kansas, elevator manager Jim Spector at the Farmway Co-op in Clay Center says farmers in Clay County have just begun harvesting in earnest. Spector says the farmers are expecting an above-average harvest, and the elevator will take in more bushels than usual because more wheat acres were planted last fall.



## Families gather for Free Kids Fishing Derby

A young girl (above) looked at the fish she had caught in disgust Saturday at the Free Kids Fishing Derby at Villa High Lake in Colby, and a father (below) put bait on his hook while his son mimicked his action. David Spalsbury, fisheries biologist for the Kansas Department of Wildlife, Parks and Tourism (right), had stocked the lake Friday evening in preparation for the big event. The local Pheasants Forever chapter, charged by Buddy Van Horn, had donated the fish, which were worth about \$500.

KATHRYN BALLARD/Colby Free Press



## Custom wheat harvest services available

Roger Hale is offering custom harvest services at Truck Town again this year for the wheat harvest.

His office, which is only open for wheat harvest, serves a nine-county area and offers free services to get custom cutters and farmers together.

However, Hale said some farmers will contract for both wheat and corn harvest.

Last year, Hale said he had 84 harvest crews inquire and the office placed 21 crews to cut 15,000 to 18,000 acres.

This service used to be run by the state employment office, but it was eventually transferred to another department and the funding for the service ended.

So Hale decided to volunteer his time to continue this service due to the importance of the wheat

season in Colby.

For information or questions, see Hale at Truck Town in Colby or call (785) 269-7712 or (785) 460-8785.

