

weather
report

69°

at noon



Today

- Sunset, 6:59 p.m.
- Tomorrow
- Sunrise, 6:28 a.m.
- Sunset, 6:57 p.m.

Midday Conditions

- Soil Temperature 64 degrees
- Humidity 30 percent
- Sky Clear
- Winds Northeast 15
- Barometer 30.18 inches and falling
- Record High 97° (1955)
- Record Low 34° (1951)

Last 24 Hours*

High	71°
Low	36°
Precipitation	—

Northwest Kansas Forecast

Tonight: Mostly cloudy 20 percent chance of showers, low 40-45, winds East 5-15. Tomorrow: Mostly cloudy 20 percent chance of showers, high 75, winds Southeast 5-15.

Extended Forecast

Thursday through Friday. Thursday thundershowers likely, low 40, high 75. Friday dry, low 40, high 88. (National Weather Service) Get 24-hour weather info. at 162.400 MHz. * Readings taken at 7 a.m.

local
markets



Noon

Wheat — \$2.31 bushel
Posted county price — \$2.21
Loan deficiency payment — 17¢
Corn — \$1.70 bushel
Posted county price — \$1.63
Loan deficiency pmt. — 36¢
Milo — \$2.35 hundredweight
Soybeans — \$4.16 bushel
Posted county price — \$4.32
Loan deficiency payment — 57¢
Millet — \$3.80 hundredweight
Sunflowers
Oil current crop — \$6.85 cwt.
Loan deficiency pmt. — \$2.91
Oil new crop — \$6.85 cwt.
Confection current — ask cwt.
Pinto beans — \$17 (new crop)
(Markets provided by Mueller Grain, Sigco Sun, Frontier Equity Co-op and Prairie Pea and Bean. These may not be closing figures.)

afternoon
wire

Late news
from the
Associated
Press

1 p.m.

Floyd whips
Florida coast

MIAMI — Authorities urged nearly 2 million people to evacuate coastal areas stretching from Florida to North Carolina today as Hurricane Floyd, one of the most powerful and biggest storms to ever threaten the United States, roared through the Bahamas.

Floyd's eye was expected to pass within 90 miles of southern Florida today, and perhaps come within 50 miles of north Florida's coast by Wednesday morning, before striking land somewhere farther north.

"If this thing parallels us, it could act like a weedeater going up the coast," said Craig Fugate of the Florida Emergency Operations Center in Tallahassee.

Floyd's top sustained wind eased today to 140 mph — down from Monday's 155 mph but still a Category 4 storm, the second most powerful designation for a hurricane.

Spruced up Grant shown off to board

By Charlie Baker

The Goodland Daily News

Grant Junior High Principal Jim Mull gave Goodland School Board members a tour of the school, showing off the new computers in the lab, new lockers, and paint job covering up the former school colors of orange and black.

The board also heard enthusiastic reports from principals, and filled 11 positions at the meeting Monday.

In his principal's report, Mull said the changes to the building gave it a nicer, friendlier feel.

"We are off to a great year," he said, adding jokingly that the only complaints he has gotten on the change of school colors is from people who purchased items in the old colors.

"They have said, 'Why didn't you do that before I bought all that orange and black stuff?'" said Mull.

He said he told the people they would be the last group to get to wear the old colors, making the stuff collectors items.

"They still didn't like it," he said.

Principal Harvey Swager said things are going great at the high school.

"Usually the first two weeks are confusing," he said. "Class sizes are changing, kids are trying to find their way.

"Our teachers and staff have been flexible and positive. Our new teachers are doing a great job."

Gerald Burkett, principal at West Elementary, said they are having a drug free program Friday, in cooperation with the other schools in the district. He also reminded members of the grandparents' breakfast at West at 7 a.m. Oct. 15, and invited them to attend.

Sharon Gregory, principal at Central Elementary, said she the staff and students at her school had done well working around the water-line construction on 13th Street.

"There has been a lot of problem solving going on," she said.

She said that the last report she got was that the work should be over by Wednesday.

Principal Steve Raymer said the kids at North this year are a different mix.

"They are calm, cool, and collected," he said, "a great group of kids."

He said he is working with Paul Nelson, owner of McDonalds, on bringing Ronald McDonald to the school for a drug awareness program.

Superintendent Marvin Selby presented an award to Board President Dick Short from the Kansas Association of School Boards for his achievement of "honor roll level one" in boardmanship training. He has also been asked to run for regional vice president of the group.

Short said he will consider the position, and the board members said they would support him if he decided to take it.

Selby said the work is progressing on Max Jones Fieldhouse, and the steelworkers are back to put the roof on the gymnasium.

"They hope to finish by Friday," he said.

Selby said the crews are making pretty good progress, and that the locker rooms and weight room could be done around the first of October.

In other business, the board:

- Approved a payment to Rhoads Construction

for the amount of \$113,328, which is the last payment on the \$1 million lease/purchase agreement for the fieldhouse.

- Approved a request from Sudie Hare for early graduation.

- Approved the hiring of Jamie Oss, gifted facilitator; Helen Dobbs, para-professional at the high school; Meechelle Williams, bus driver; Casey Veatch, science olympiad assistant sponsor and Students Against Drunk Driving sponsor; Dennis Friedrichs, science olympiad sponsor; Kandace Rather, assistant high school cheerleader sponsor; Deneyce Bahe, cheerleader sponsor for the junior high; Myron Tedford, eighth grade boys basketball assistant coach; Gary Winter, junior high assistant wrestling coach; Sandy Trachsel, head coach for eighth grade volleyball; and change Troy Rall from junior high assistant wrestling coach to high school assistant wrestling coach.

The next board meeting will be at 7 p.m. Monday, Sept. 27, at the district office.

Enrollment down by 15

By Charlie Baker

The Goodland Daily News

Enrollment in Goodland schools is down about 15 students for the 1999-2000 year, says School Superintendent Marvin Selby, and officials fear the loss could be as much as 20, costing the schools \$80,000 a year.

Selby said the schools started the year down four students from the anticipated count.

"But we have lost 11 students since the 31st of August," he said.

He said that figures are not final and changes are expected before the official count has to go to the state on Sept. 20. The figures reflect a trend over the last few years, Selby said, not just in Goodland, but across northwest Kansas.

Selby said the enrollment is down 25 in the free lunch program, and down 20 in the reduced lunch program.

"It is a mixed bag," he said. "We are pleased that incomes of families has increased, but it also means that we will have less money to spend on those programs."

He said the figures also are down in transportation about seven or eight students.

Selby said that enrollment in vocational classes is up by eight or nine students.

"It will help the final figures," he said, "but I am concerned about the overall picture."

The state pays the Goodland district around \$4,000 per student, so if the district ends up with 20 students less than the projected amount for the year, it will mean that the district could have to cut \$80,000 from this year's budget. The budget runs around \$6 million per year, so the lost would be just a little over 1.3 percent of the total.

"We will have take money from this and that to make up for the loss," he said.

Push is on for crop overhaul

WASHINGTON (AP) — Plains-state senators launched a push Monday for a crop insurance overhaul that would provide farmers with more coverage at lower prices.

Many farmers don't bother to buy crop insurance because they consider the premiums too costly for the coverage — averaging about 65 percent on eligible acreage. With farm country crippled by recession, Congress is seeking to reinforce the safety net without scrapping the 1996 farm law that phased out Depression-era supports.

Supporters of the crop insurance reforms say a vital component will be giving farmers new tools for handling market fluctuations as they move away from reliance on government subsidies tied to crop production.

Under legislation introduced Monday by Sens. Pat Roberts, R-Kan., and Bob Kerrey, D-Neb., start-up farmers or those who have added land or rotated crops would get an average production history credit. That's because under the current system, insurers aren't willing to cover new crops until a few years have passed and they've been established.



Grant Junior High students Chad Normandin, Tharon Barber, Gami Cloyd, Emily Burkett and Troy Klinger used the equipment in the computer lab to present to board members a report on their recent trip to Hays for Frontier Days.

Board members held their meeting at the junior high to tour the computer lab, newly painted halls and restrooms, and examined the new lockers.

Photo by Charlie Baker/The Goodland Daily News

Moran to host ag committee hearing

At the request of U.S. Rep. Jerry Moran, the House Agriculture Committee will hold a field hearing at 10 a.m. on Saturday in the 4-H Encampment Building at the Kansas State Fair Grounds in Hutchinson.

Chairman Larry Combest from Texas said the panel will take testimony from farmers in Kansas' "Big First" Congressional District to help shape the official record for action on the farm economy.

"Lost market values and adverse weather have hurt producers across the country, and a timely response from Congress will be based on crop and regional needs on the record before the House Agriculture Committee," said Combest. "Saturday's hearing, from the Kansas perspective, is well-timed with what we will have heard earlier in the week from farm and commodity groups, as well as from the secretary of agriculture."

"Bringing this Agriculture Committee hearing to Kansas brings home the situation shared by producers nationwide, and amplified in Kansas."

Congressman Moran, Kansas' representative on the committee, said he wants members to hear what producers in Kansas have been telling him.

"With farmers and ranchers enduring the worst farm crisis since the 1980s, I appreciate Chairman Combest's support and the involvement of members of the Agriculture Committee coming to Kansas to see first-hand how the low prices are affecting rural America," said Moran.

"The current agriculture crisis is more than numbers and estimates. It is about real people."

"I hope this hearing will impress upon my colleagues the need for immediate action to assist with the survival of a generation of farmers and ranchers."

The Kansas field hearing is scheduled to include testimony from Department of Agriculture Chief Economist Keith Collins, Kansas City Federal Reserve Bank agricultural economist Mark Drabenstott, representatives from the Kansas Farm Bureau, Kansas Farmers' Union, Kansas Chapter of Women Involved in Farm Economics (WIFE), and producers from Kansas, Oklahoma and Nebraska.

Getting a new face



Ginn Brothers bricklayers arrived at the Goodland Activities Center this morning to begin resurfacing the front, where large windows have been closed in. The brick had to be special ordered to match the existing brick on the building. Mike Ginn said it will not take too long to finish the work.

Photo by Charlie Baker/The Goodland Daily News