

Teachers say having algebra every day is working

By Kathryn Burke
The Goodland Star-News
 Algebra I was taken out of Goodland High School's block schedule and taught everyday, and at a meeting Monday, Jan. 24, school board members learned teachers think it's working. "It's doing very well," said math teacher Don Smith. "For many it's been a very positive program." Math teacher Gaylene Shank agreed having Algebra everyday is good for her students. "I recommend we stay with it," she said. "We have been successful with Algebra I." He said when Algebra I everyday was first proposed he was excited to begin the project.

Block scheduling in the Algebra classes, he said, had students not getting work done. "The number of not handed in papers," he said, "has been reduced this year." Smith said he can continue to teach now without reviewing the last lesson. With block scheduling, he said, the class would have to review for much of the class time. "We don't have nearly as much of a breakdown or loss," he said. Shank added she doesn't have to do as much reteaching as she did with block schedules. Working every day, Smith said, the class has gotten through much more material than in previous years. He covered only chapters 1,

2, 3, 5 and a little bit of 6 in the entire year before and has covered 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, 9, 10 and one-half of 6 at this point this year. Smith said because of the every day classes, he has been able to cover the extra chapters. "Students in Algebra I going on to Algebra II are much better prepared," he said. Shank said students normally aren't taught radicals until Algebra II, but with more class time the Algebra I classes have a chance to touch on the subject. Smith said covering more topics will help students on state assessment tests. If students have at least been exposed to different topics, he said, they have a better chance of

doing well on the tests. "If they aren't taught it," agreed Shank, "they don't know it on the test." He said student and parent opinions of Algebra every day have been positive. "A number of parents commented about the change," he said of conversations with parents during this year's open house. Smith said some parents told him they would like to see all core classes offered every day. "They said 'We're glad you've done it,'" he said. Five students in one of his Algebra I every day class are repeating the course, he said. Of the five, Smith said, three are making Bs,

one has a C and one is making a D plus. "Out of five, three said Algebra I is my favorite class in school," he said. "I'm very, very pleased." Shank said due to other influences, her every day class doesn't particularly like the schedule. She said even as one of the most difficult classes she has taught, she sees the benefits of the every day classes. She does not, however, think an every day schedule would work for her pre algebra students because of their maturity. Board member Ron Schilling argued that math should be made a priority earlier in school. "I think we need to put the flags up in third or fourth grade," he said.

"I would think that would help our math a lot." Shank agreed saying if they caught kids early, they might develop a liking for math through understanding. "If we repair the gaps early," she said, "we could keep them from developing a bad taste in their mouths." "We need to find a way to bridge the gap," Schilling said. Both Smith and Shank did agree the program seems to be working overall for Algebra I. "It's good to see the leadership in the high school and the district made those adjustments," board member Mike Campbell said. "They see when it needs to be made and change it."

Woman feeling better, able to enjoy celebrating 90th birthday

Sunday, the 23rd of January, was a special day for Maurita Musil, as it was the day her 90th birthday was celebrated. There were several that stopped by Hunter Hall to wish her the best, and she seemed to be enjoying it greatly. We are so happy that this lady is feeling better and able to enjoy these celebrations. LeAnne Carney wants me to inform all those who are saving the bonus labels for the school that the purchase of any 10 Campbell's, Pepperidge Farm or Pace products from Dillon's between Jan. 9 and Feb. 9 will be given a bonus of 250 points, which will be detailed at the



sally michael
 • brewster beacon

Lesa Jeunemann wondered if I would be interested in a special guest speaker that Beta Club was having tonight, who would talk about special questions women might have about finances and other things. I had some other things I needed to get done this evening, but I do believe it would be beneficial to anyone to know how to better manage their finances or their time. That is a double-edged consumer for all of us, and I don't think gen-

der has that much to do with it. Organization is also a problem, at least for me it seems. I took some papers to Colby to wind up some business with, and I got the business taken care of but left the papers some place. Since they were under the heading of "vital statistics," I hope that when they are found, they are returned to me. It makes me very upset with myself that I didn't keep better track of them. As my daughter-in-law said, it's not like I don't have a few things to think about. But that is not something I want to get used to using as an excuse. Anyway, I hope that the

ones who attended the seminar were rewarded with an abundance of good advice. The boys and girls basketball teams are really tremendous this year. It is awesome to see the scores that these kids keep piling on. They still have a lot of games to get through, and we wish them the best in all their games. Frances Jones returned from her visit to Texas several days ago, but I haven't mentioned that while she was in Texas, her son-in-law, Jerry Shirley, died. She extended her visit so that she could be with her daughter Sheila until after the funeral. We send our

Bible, creation teach much about who God is; Bible tells how to worship Him

People worship many things, including money, and even idolize athletes and movie stars. But the Bible tells us there is only one true God and that He is the only one we should worship. How can we know who He is? Can we be sure our worship is directed to Him?



sharon corcoran
 • use it or lose it

We can learn much about God from what He created. Poets have written brilliant descriptions of earth's beauty, and artists and photographers have sought to capture glimpses of it on canvas and film. Scientists have learned much about how the earth's processes work together to sustain life. Can anyone claim to have a brilliant enough mind to invent such things? If we tried, would we care enough to create all the different colors and textures of nature that appeal to the eyes or the scents and sounds that appeal to our senses? But God did all of these things with nothing to go on, no plans or projects in progress from someone else. Genesis 1:2 says, "Now the earth proved to be formless and

waste and there was darkness upon the surface of the watery deep; and God's active force was moving to and fro over the surface of the waters." Considering His place, God rightly expects us to worship only Him. Exodus 20:4,5 says, "Thou shalt not make unto thee any graven image, or any likeness of any thing that is in heaven above, or that is in the earth beneath, or that is in the water under the earth: Thou shalt not bow down thyself to them, nor serve them: for I the LORD thy God am a jealous God, visiting the iniquity of the fathers upon the children unto the third and fourth generation of them that hate me." We can observe many of God's qualities in creation, but the Bible is needed to round out our knowledge of Him. It contains His message to us, teaches about His quali-

ties and gives us advice that works in our lives. But we have to take the time to read and study it to benefit from it. When we learn about God from His word, we can be sure of who He is and that we are directing our worship to the creator of the universe.

1 Corinthians 8:5, 6 says, "For even though there are those who are called 'gods,' whether in heaven or on earth, just as there are many 'gods' and many 'lords,' there is actually to us one God the Father, out of whom all things are, and we for him; and there is one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom all things are, and we through him." Revelation 4:11 says, "Thou art worthy, O Lord, to receive glory and honour and power: for thou hast created all things, and for thy pleasure they are and were created." God has many titles, including God and Almighty, but he also has a name. That name is represented in Hebrew letters, translated to YHWH. Some religions translate it to Yahweh, others to Jehovah. When the Bible was written, God's name appeared about 7,000 times in it but has since been replaced with the titles LORD or God. Why is it important to know that He has a name? Imagine if you wanted to talk to a friend. Would you call for him by name or by his title? If you called out to someone by title in a crowd, would the right person answer? People usually want others to know and remember their names and call them by name. It can be irritating, if not insulting, to have someone who should know you well forget your name. Why should God feel differently? He had His name recorded in the Bible, so we could know it, not so we could call Him LORD.

Psalm 1, 2 says, "The heavens are declaring the glory of God; and the work of his hands the expanse is telling. One day after another day causes speech to bubble forth, and one night after another night shows forth knowledge." Romans 1:20 says, "For his invisible qualities are clearly seen from the world's creation onward, because they are perceived by the things made." revealed in these texts, as well as his faithfulness, energy and attention to detail in that He names all the stars and is able to remember them. If a friend sent you a letter telling you about what's going on in his life, wouldn't you learn similar things about his personality from reading it? Amos 3:7 says God, "will not do a single thing unless he has revealed his confidential matter to his servants the prophets." 2 Timothy 3:16 says, "All scripture is inspired of God and beneficial for teaching, for reproving, for setting things straight, for disciplining in righteousness." God tells us about his purposes and what he wants us to do and gives us sound advice, but we have to read the Bible to find out what he has to say.

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Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14												
17												
20												
28	29	30										
32												
40												
44												
53	54	55										
57												
65												
69												
72												

- CLUES ACROSS**
- Egyptian dam
 - Baby's "bottle"
 - South Asian dress
 - ___ con carne
 - A wager
 - Ghengis ___
 - Pink
 - Cabana
 - Part of the eye
 - Children's love
 - Overburdened
 - Only
 - Punt
 - Metal attractor
 - Take away weapons
 - Unseal
 - Time period
 - Ghost
 - Type of Middle East dweller
 - Runs
 - Girl
 - Roman cloaks
 - A fresh
 - Tiny tree
 - Hamburger holder
 - Far away
 - Partial
 - Tease
 - Wading bird
 - Wrath
 - "The ___ Strikes Back"
 - George Bernard ___
 - Very large book
 - Assistant
 - "Gone With the Wind" actress
 - Haze
 - Computer picture button
 - Distribute
 - Yin's partner
 - Vale
 - Writings
- CLUES DOWN**
- Account (abbr.)
 - Scat!
 - Lean
 - Mainland state
 - Nichts
 - Type of art form
 - Bedroom furniture
 - Fold
 - Try
 - Winter sport
 - Moses' brother
 - River
 - Set in
 - Canadian law enforcers (initials)
 - No (Scottish)
 - Tax agency
 - Tiny insect
 - ___ vu
 - Flatten
 - Sensible
 - Fats
 - ___ Stravinsky, composer
 - Manned
 - Loots
 - Accent mark
 - Performing group
 - Sag
 - A female bartender
 - A French abbot
 - Caesar's three
 - An interest on land capable of being inherited
 - Determine the court costs of
 - Wee
 - Fragrance
 - Monster
 - ___ Dunne, actress
 - Typesetting measurement
 - Teen hero
 - Boo
 - Water (Sp.)
 - Curds and ___
 - Scrambled food
 - Tell a tall tale CW052110

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