

Students talk about high school

STUDENTS, from Page 1a

things she dislikes about the high school.

She likes block scheduling - high school classes are set up in 90 minute blocks on alternate days.

"You get to do more hands-on stuff," she said because teachers have more time. "I learn better that way."

"Do you think block scheduling is good for all students?" asked Jim Mull, principal of North Elementary and Grant Junior High.

Wolak said the schedule doesn't work out for all classes, but she still likes it.

Board member Amy Sederstrom asked how often a teacher used the entire class for instruction.

Wolak said while some teachers lecture for the entire 90 minutes, many leave about 20 minutes to help with questions on assigned work.

Harrison said many of his teachers use the entire time for instruction.

Wolak and Harrison both like seminar, a class set aside for studying or homework.

Tatman said football practice keeps him out late sometimes, and he needs seminar for homework.

A top student, Wolak especially likes the Black and Gold cards - a reward card that gives students who make good grades extra free time to leave school for lunch.

"We cherish them," she said.

Tatman said while he doesn't currently have a card, he thinks the opportunity helps him strive for better grades.

All three students said that they want the school to keep the candy and pop machines.

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Board takes day to listen, learn

RETREAT, from Page 1a

by the new energy center.

How to handle declining enrollment, including closing district buildings, also came up.

Sharon Gregory, Central Elementary principal, gave the board an in-depth report on the "adequate yearly progress" required under federal law.

Gregory, the school improvement specialist for the district, told the board what not making progress - the high school did not make adequate progress for this year - means and what that could eventually mean to the district.

Shelly Angelos, principal for West Elementary, covered student retention for board members. West has some trouble keeping students for the entire

year, she said.

Jim Mull, principal for North Elementary and Grant Junior High, shared a few ways to cut costs in extra curricular activities.

Board members learned more about air conditioning needs for West and North. Selby explained his criteria for closing school for heat days.

The board tossed around ideas to improve school site councils and to get more participation. The councils are made up of parents and teachers working together to make the schools better.

After lunch, board members looked at the number of teachers and staff on the brink of retirement. Selby said he wants to replace the teachers with good quality recruits.

extra curricular activities got support form all three, too.

"I think it's a good idea," Harrison said.

He added the new rule is keeping some students away from parties.

Tatman likes the testing because it shows neighboring towns that kids in Goodland are clean. While some kids still party, he added, the testing has closed some parties down.

Board member LeAnn Friedrichs asked the students what the school wasn't doing well at.

Harrison said teachers and administrators need to be more vigilant about bullying.

Tatman agreed, saying tensions sometimes run high and some students are quick to fight.

ment Supply of Wichita for a new brush chipper for the electric department. Charlie Bandel said the workers had tested two chippers and liked the one from Vegetation Management the best. The other bid from for \$22,893 from Vermeen Sales and Service of Goddard. Both bids included the trade-in of the city's 1993 chipper. Bandel said the trade-in value was about \$10,000.

• Approved grant documents for replacing the intersections at Main and Ninth, 10th and 13th. Neufeld said the state has agreed to allow the three intersections to be combined with the two (11th and 12th) that are

ready to go to bid. He said because the design work has been completed on the other two intersections, adding the three would be fairly easy. He said he wants to have the plans ready to go to the state by the end of the month and it is possible the bids can be let in November or December. Construction of the intersections would begin next spring and they would do the odd intersections together and then do the even intersections so there would always be access to the downtown area.

Hill reported that he and Rod Blake, power plant superintendent, had a good meeting with represen-

tatives from Sunflower Electric, and that he felt better about being able to cover the time next year before the new power plant comes on line.

Blake said the cost for power from Sunflower had dropped a bit and the city was paying \$32 per megawatt hour off peak and \$74 peak.

The next city meeting will be 5 p.m. on Monday, Oct. 3.

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Sederstrom agreed, saying students who get in trouble should be forced to do more work.

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"It's almost fun for them," agreed Sederstrom. "It needs to be punishment."

Friedrichs asked if the students have a problem, do they have someone they can go to and get help from.

Wolak said the school offers peer counselors, and that helps give students options.

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Tatman agreed, saying teachers have helped him out of trouble in the past.

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