

West teachers enthusiastic

SCHOOL, from Page 1

The teachers are divided into teams and they rotate. The team rotation has been the best thing that has happened, said.

Each student has home work every night. They are supposed to read 30 minutes a night with their parents. The involvement of the parents has been a good thing.

"The students can read many more stories and know many more words," said Thompson.

"I love your enthusiasm," said LeAnn Friedrich, school board member.

"Good job," said Dick Short, another school board member.

Michael Smith, junior son of Celia Smith and Kansas state president for FCCLA, asked for the boards approval of his bid for national office in FCCLA. His club sponsor, advisor and mentor Sarah Short was also there. There were several other students and their parents at the meeting to show their support.

"FCCLA teaches students to become productive citizens," said Michael Smith. "FCCLA is completely student run."

He said, "It would be the ultimate leadership experience."

It would give the school name recognition nationally and the club would learn new strategies and skills, he said.

He also hoped to bring speakers to the school from around the country. Also he hoped to improve the climate at the high school giving students more choices and information.

He invited the school board to

come to the state meeting in Wichita on April 8, 9, 10 and 11th.

Sarah Short accompanies Michael Smith when he goes to state meetings. She said it was important to have a consistent advisor and is comfortable being an advisor for a national office. She has been an advisor to state officers for eleven years.

She said Wendy Wellman is an excellent substitute teacher and does her classes when she is gone. She said she always lets the school know in August or September how many days she would be gone. She said she will be gone 26 days this year and if Michael Smith gets the office 36 days next year.

National pays for the trips that it requires, Sarah Short said.

"I am totally in support of FCCLA," said Amy Sederstrom, school board member.

The school board approved Michael Smith's pursuit of national FCCLA office and that Sarah Short would accompany him.

They would allow \$4,000 to go for expenses and if they could not raise any more needed to come back. Dick Short excused himself from the voting.

Dennis Daise, director of Big Brothers, Big Sisters, asked the board if they wanted to have a team in the Bowl for Kids Sake and they said it would.

Randy Berls, high school vocal music instructor, asked the board for permission to use the auditorium for a community Easter cantata.

He asked to use the auditorium and choral room for church services

for March, April and May for the Harvest Evangelical Free Church. Brian Fugleberg is the pastor.

The board approved the use of the auditorium for the Easter cantata but declined to let the church use school facilities for services.

Strait said that it would cost under \$200,000 to air condition West Elementary School. That is 20 percent higher than the estimate of \$175,000 for last year.

He said the cost rose higher than normal because of Hurricane Katrina. He thought the cost increase to do North Elementary would be about 10 percent next year.

The board voted to seek bids to air condition West Elementary with the intent to continue air conditioning buildings until all were done.

Strait said they would let bids mid March to be due the second week of April.

He and the board set a finish date for August 1 with a penalty clause if the contractor is not done.

Superintendent Marvin Selby said he took the bid of First National Bank for a six month investment of \$1.2 million.

Selby wanted board members to come back with dates for Spring/Summer for the whole board training session at the next meeting.

The board talked with the different principals on the principal evaluations.

They approved checks for bills of \$38,195.

The next school board meeting will be Monday, March 20 at the board room at the school administration office, 1312 Main at 7 p.m.



Shelly Angelos, West Elementary principal and district superintendent in July, gave a pep talk to sophomores at Goodland High School. She encouraged them to do their best.

Photo by Pat Schiefen/The Goodland Star-News

Kids get pep talk for state tests this week

By Pat Schiefen
The Goodland Star-News

The principal from West Elementary School gave a pep talk Wednesday noon at the high school gym to encourage sophomores to do their best on the state math assessment test this week.

Shelly Angelos, West principal and the school district's new superintendent after July, started by telling the teachers to take a 10-minute break.

Angelos took a \$50-bill, wadded it up, stepped on it and otherwise abused it. Then she asked the students if they would still want the bill. Every one she asked said yes, because it still had value.

People are like that bill, she said. "Lots of stuff happens to us in our lives," Angelos said. "We end up crumpled, but we still have value and self worth."

"I have a hero," she added. "His name is Steve."

Steve, one of four children, had an alcoholic father, she said. He knew he still mattered. Steve's dad leaves and times get tough, with his mother trying to make enough money. Steve's mother has no education.

Steve tells a story about when his mother wanted them to have a Thanksgiving like everyone else. She took Steve and his brothers and sisters to a turkey farm and they stole a turkey to have for Thanksgiving.

Steve's mom remarried to much the same type of man. His new dad is also an alcoholic and abusive.

In junior high, when Steve's stepfather started beating his mother, he took a broom handle and starting beating him. That man soon left.

One day, when Steve was 16, his mother asked him to stay home

from school, which was unusual. He saw her leave in a car with a gun. He called the police but they were unable to stop his mother from killing herself.

In spite of all of this, she said, Steve knew he still mattered and he decided what mattered to him. Steve knew he had to get an education and that he could make a difference.

Angelos said Steve was her father, and she said she told the story to show that everyone has choices and could make a difference.

She told sophomores that by taking the math assessment test seriously and doing their best, they could help make sure the schools had enough money to do their job.

She will also talk to the juniors next week who will be taking the reading assessment later.

"I encourage you to do your best," Angelos said.

Rotarians hear about road plans

ROADS, from Page 1

expected in the next year or two, the bonds should be paid off in 10-12 years.

Dechant said the sales tax has a sunset when the bonds are paid off, and the tax will go away. He said there will be a public forum at 7 p.m. on Monday, March 13, at the Howard Johnson Hotel being sponsored by the Leadership Sherman County class.

Rasure said the state has shown interest in what is happening with

the energy center, and that helped move the bill allowing the sales tax bill through the Legislature.

Banker Dick Liess asked about Road 16, and if having that one mile in the plan might be enough to sink the whole issue?

"Not everyone is a golfer," Liess said. "I think it is important to see this whole project get approved. I am wondering if the Road 16 is enough to sink the whole issue."

"It is a small portion," Rasure replied. "Not everyone will like the roads we picked. We think Road 16

is important because of the economic development impact, and with all the truck traffic that will be going down Road 14, we expect more people to use Road 16.

"People should remember that Sherman County has a pull factor over 1. That means more people come to the county to spend money. Not all the counties have this beneficial factor."

John Golden said it was good to see both the city and county working on this project together.

Co-op merger vote tonight

MERGER, from Page 1

uct prices; and attract better employees.

The main office for the business will be in Goodland with Brad Cowan as the General Manager. The combined board of directors will have seven directors from

Frontier and two from St. Francis Equity. The board will be reduced in the next two years returning to its original size of seven.

The Frontier Equity directors are Brent Linin, Tim Livengood, Albert Rall, Theron Culwell, John Deeds, Kenneth Davis and Alan Townsend. The St. Francis directors are Ronald

Zweygardt, Alex Peterson, Ted Zielke, Spencer Schlepp and Dale Rath.

Brad Cowan will be the general manager and Tim Burr, manager of St. Francis Equity, will remain as part of the cooperative.


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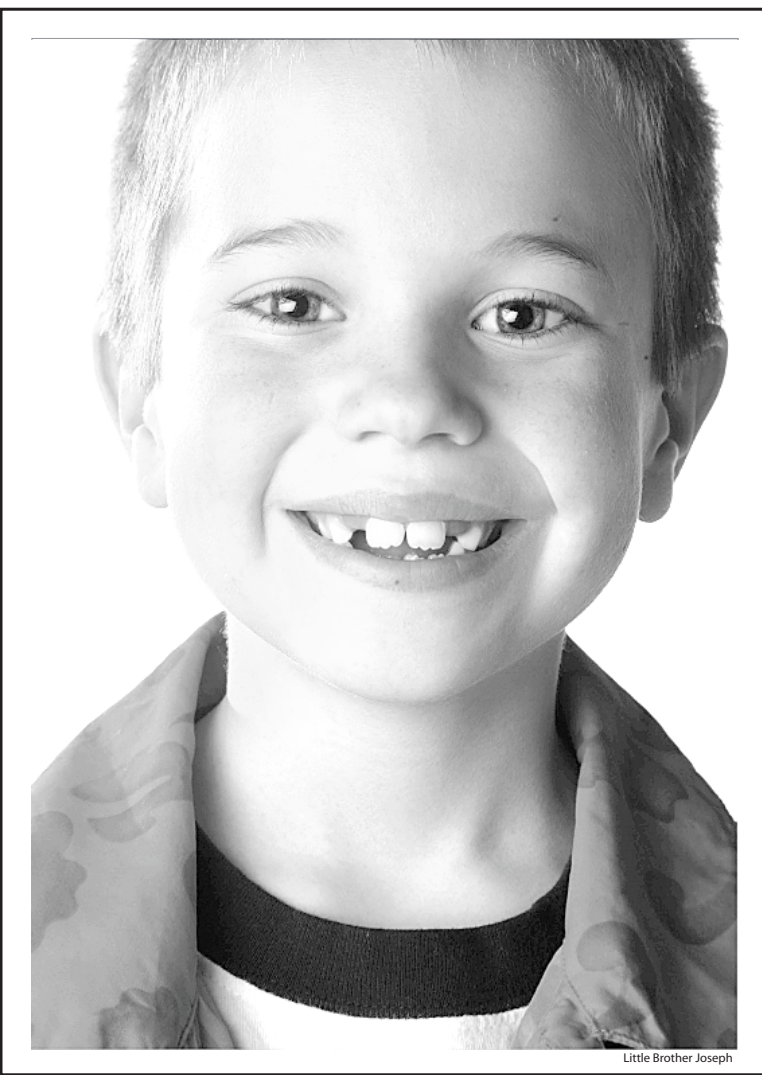


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Big Brothers Big Sisters of Sherman, Wallace, and Cheyenne Counties



Little Brother Joseph

Bowl For Kids' Sake 2006

Saturday, April 1st

Goodland Bowladium Lanes • 509 Caldwell Avenue
Teams: 1 Team Captain + 3 other members
Starts at 11am

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