

Needs listed for next capital project

By **Paul Lane**

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Antiquated technology rooms, scant storage space and a dearth of security are among the problems that the Grand Island School District might tackle in its next capital project.

The School Board heard a presentation Monday night that was culled from subcommittee meetings held with leaders from each of Grand Island's five schools.

David Goris, the board member who has been charged with coordinating the subcommittees, presented administrators' wish lists.

With some of the district's buildings nearing a half-century old, Goris said several meetings were held to hash out issues at "every nook and cranny that we have in the district."

Officials at every school said that upgrades are needed in the science and technology classrooms and in libraries and storage spaces, as well as in bringing security measures more in line with 21st century concerns. Additional issues included:

- The need to upgrade the high school auditorium and music suite shared with the middle school. Proposals also call for adding multiple-function rooms that could be adjusted as required when needs shift and for dealing with inadequate athletic fields to prevent them from wearing out through the sports seasons. "The high school was built for a different population," Goris said.
- Inadequate math and engineering space in the middle school. Richard Little Jr., board president, emphasized the importance of dealing with that problem because the performance of American students in math and science has dwindled, compared with that of students from other nations.
- Using space in the Huth Road cafeteria to store outdated equipment. The computer labs at all three elementary schools are too small, Goris said.

Moving forward, Goris asked that trustees set forth limits within which the subcommittees can work.