

and district officials listen to one another and retain respect in their discussions. He said that the district has been very transparent in its financial dealings and urged all to educate themselves about the candidates for the board and to vote.

Director of Personnel and Student Services Bob Foster explained upcoming changes in the staff assessment process, saying that the rubric used for assessment has been simplified. The rubric for assessment of principals is also being revised.

Hasstedt announced the schedule for DAAC meetings during the 2017-18 school year. There will be five meetings at various locations.

DAAC meets five times a year. Locations vary. The next meeting will be at 7 p.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 14 at Lewis-Palmer High School, 1300 Higby Road, Monument.

Harriet Halbig may be reached at harriethalbig@ocn.me.

Monument Academy School Board, Oct. 11

Progress on high school application; background checks for board members

By Jackie Burhans

The Monument Academy (MA) School Board met on Oct. 11 to review progress on its high school application, discuss collaborating with the Lewis-Palmer School District (LPSD) on grants, and revise board policy to require a background check for anyone running for School Board.

Board member Julie Galusky came late. Board member Patrick Hall was absent.

Progress on high school application

Dr. Elizabeth Davis, principal and chief academic officer, reported a very successful meeting and presentation on the proposed new high school at a LPSD District Accountability and Advisory Commit-

tee (DAAC) meeting. She said she felt positive about the public feedback as well as the slide presentation. Board President Scott Saunders said he thought Davis and Dr. Don Griffin did a great job sharing the vision of the MA High School and addressing questions.

Griffin noted that he and Davis had a district meeting that included department heads who had many questions and clarifications. They also spent an hour on the phone with Ryan Marks from the Charter School Institute (CSI) to review and score the application. Griffin asked that the board attend the public hearing on Oct. 12 as a show of support. He also noted that the subsequent public hearing will be on Nov. 15 at 6 p.m. and that the DAAC will provide a recommendation and the Lewis-Palmer Board of Education will consider a resolution to accept or deny the application.

Collaborating with district on literacy grant

Davis noted that MA has been working with the district on an Early Literacy Assessment Tool (ELAT) grant that would help pay for Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) testing. She has been coordinating with the district and the Colorado Department of Education (CDE) and feels that it is a great partnership between all three entities. The goal is to make sure that grant funds are being used in a great way for kids who need early intervention by getting it to them as quickly as possible. She noted that she now has a direct line to the ELAT coordinator at CDE, which is a great contact.

Background checks for board members

The MA board discussed a recommendation from

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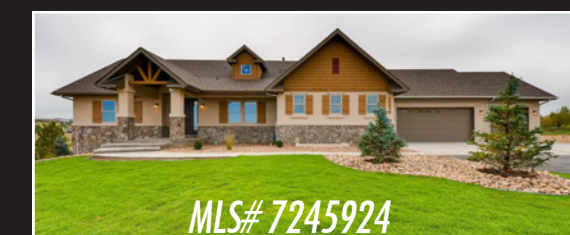


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