

I-25 (Cont. from page 1)

use at Lewis-Palmer Elementary. James Howald thanked the district for the program, and said that development of empathy is integral to working with people from other cultures and countries later in life. Heather Jacobson said that she had been bullied early in life and stressed that attacks on the board, teachers, and students should not be tolerated. Marcy Deeds said that Lewis-Palmer Elementary Principal Jenny Day held a coffee to explain Path 2 Empathy and that she appreciated its use.

Teacher Phyllis Robinette thanked Brofft for encouraging teachers to take time to reflect on their priorities and their relationships with students.

Araje said that, due to the results of

last year’s elections and their change in policy focus, the district should remove “global” from its vision statement.

Superintendent update

The board voted to extend the Superintendent Brofft’s contract through June 30, 2019.

Brofft reported that the district had been praised for its efforts to ensure data privacy. She also listed several awards that had been received by local schools from the Colorado Department of Education (CDE). These awards will be highlighted at next month’s meeting.

Brofft reported that the long-range planning open house held the previous Monday had been well attended and informative, especially with regard to a demographic study. The demographers

spoke with local developers regarding plans and trends. The next step in the planning process is for the facilities committee to meet. Final recommendations are due in April. (See related D-38 article on page 4.)

The open enrollment period ended a week after the meeting. At the time of the meeting, it appeared that about 120 students would be involved.

Assistant Superintendent Cheryl Wageman expressed support for the superintendent and the board. She said that she has been working with the Monument Planning Commission on the town’s plan and learned that the town sees the school district as a major reason for people to move to the area.

Wageman reported that nine more pupils are leaving the district than are opting in, but that this number has decreased annually.

Wageman presented a budget update, expressing concern that it appears

state funding will remain flat for the next year while there are significant needs for projects such as replacing the turf in the stadium and doors and windows at several schools, in addition to new buses and computers.

Other actions

The board voted to request a waiver from the state Board of Education regarding the review period for new charter schools. The board voted to approve a consent agenda of routine items such as minutes of previous meetings, purchase of a vehicle for the chief of safety and security, land use, and new course adoption.

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The Board of Education for Lewis-Palmer D-38 meets at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the district’s Learning Center, 146 Jefferson St., Monument. The next meeting will be on March 16.

Harriet Halbig may be reached at [harriethalbig@ocn.me](mailto:harriethalbig@ocn.me).

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