

board seems to agree on making Bear Creek back into a middle school and building an elementary on that site. If a decision can be made soon, the district can begin work on a bond issue for that

exclusive purpose.

Board Vice President Tiffney Upchurch agreed that a middle school and elementary school in the Jackson Creek neighborhood are needed. She

also shared concern about children in Grace Best in its current condition.

Pfoff said that a decision must be made in February. He suggested the possibility of a magnet school. The district would not have to provide busing, and the school could use an existing building. Failing to act soon would result in the use of modular classrooms, which are not secure.

Wangeman agreed that modulares are a bad idea and the district needs to accept that new subdivisions keep coming. The information being used by the Long Term Planning Committee is already outdated to an extent. As subdivisions come there are additional options for school locations.

Brofft agreed and said that Grace Best is not central to the area of greatest growth in the district. Parents of students from Grace Best were happy to have an elementary closer to their homes.

Pfoff suggested removing the option of Grace Best as an elementary from consideration.

Taylor agreed with Pfoff on the location of an elementary school near Bear Creek, as one was included there

in the plan for the site. He suggested consulting with the architect of Bear Creek on how to proceed.

Taylor proposed that the board get an independent architect to give a second opinion of costs of various uses of Grace Best. Sampayo supported Taylor in finding the architect for the second opinion.

The board agreed to revisit the discussion in February.

Monument Academy operations report

Monument Academy Executive Director Don Griffin reported on the status of the school, saying that the current enrollment is 913.82 full-time equivalent students, with 353 in the middle school.

After studying the students receiving exceptional student services, it was decided that several no longer required services.

The school's audit was clean, and all requirements for transparency were met.

In February, to celebrate Heart Month, all middle schoolers will become CPR certified.

When asked about waiting lists for enrollment, Griffin said that at the beginning of the year there is usually no waiting list, but later there is often a list of 20 to 28 students per grade. The school administers a placement test for all incoming students. The school retains 82 to 85 percent of its enrollment from one year to the next.

Taylor asked whether Griffin might be able to provide a second elementary school. Griffin responded that the school is currently focusing on its new high school.

Gifted education and English Language Learner reports

Executive Director of Learning Services Lori Benton reported on the district's gifted education services, saying that all students are evaluated by third grade to find whether they qualify for services, although some are evaluated at a much earlier age. There are large numbers of gifted students at the middle school and high school levels. She attributed this to the well-educated and supportive parents in the district.

Although the state does not provide a per pupil amount of funding, the state will provide \$98,528 while the district provides \$619,397 for the 2017-18 school year.

Director of Exceptional Student Services Rick Frampton reported that English Language Learners now comprise 3.9 percent of the student population. The district has received two state awards for promising programs and the Colorado Excellence award.

A new development in the English Language Learner program is an increase in unaccompanied minors entering the district, largely from South America and Africa.

The program offers a summer school program, parent advisory meetings, a homework club, and an adult literacy program. Trauma-involved instruction is also offered.

Policy discussion

Director of Personnel and Student Services Bob Foster moderated a discussion of four policies. The first, approved by the board, required that parents of students involved in incidents of violence, whether as a perpetrator or a victim, would be notified in a reasonable amount of time.

The second, policy JECC, involved assignment of students to schools and the procedure for requesting reassignment. This was the first reading of the policy and no action was taken.

Policy EGA, addressing the use of electronic signatures, was read for the first time and no action was taken.

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