



Above: State 4A basketball champions, the Lewis-Palmer High School Rangers, are shown with their coaches, board Director Theresa Phillips, board Secretary Mark Pfoff, top, Superintendent Karen Brofft, center, and board President Matthew Clawson, right. *Photo by Harriet Halbig.*

with “solely for”), ensuring that there be a positive argument in the voter information guide for the bond, and limiting the bond to one use only.

Brofft commented that the change in schedule saved enough money that the district was able to add back to the school some features that would add to its durability and longevity.

Taylor also reminded the board that the investment in the design of the building was worthwhile because it would be used again.

There was a brief discussion about the wisdom of using reserves in this way.

Assistant Superintendent Cheryl Wangeman said the district maintains enough in reserve to cover two months of operating expenses.

Board President Matthew Clawson asked whether the district could cover all expenses in the event of a financial downturn. Wangeman responded that, should one appear to be approaching, the district would plan accordingly.

Clawson also inquired about unfunded mandates from the state such as free full-day kindergarten and paid family leave. Brofft responded that a greater concern would be the passage of a uniform mill levy across all districts, but otherwise the district could only wait to see what passes.

In her enrollment update, Wangeman reported that the population of the district has grown by 34 since the Oct. 1 count, with Bear Creek and Kilmer elementaries growing the most. She said forecasting for the following year usually begins in April.

Recognitions

The board announced the following recognitions:

- New Prairie Winds Principal Alicia Welch and new Palmer Ridge High School Principal Dr. Terry Bramschreiber were introduced.
- Lewis-Palmer High School Baseball program volunteer Meg Shuger was recognized for founding Wreaths Across America to place wreaths on the graves of fallen soldiers and for her book drive to benefit the new Children’s Hospital Colorado.
- The state 4A Basketball champion Lewis-Palmer High School Rangers were recognized with

- Gary Long of the Palmer Ridge Boys Gold Team was recognized as Gazette Prep Boys Golf Coach of the Year.
- Mallory Cuccio, coach

of the Palmer Ridge field hockey team, was recognized as Gazette Preps Field Hockey Coach of the Year (Cuccio was not in attendance).

- Lewis-Palmer Swim and



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Dive coach Alan Arata was recognized as NFHS National Coach of the Year by the Colorado High School Athletic Association. He was previously recognized as Colorado State Coach of the Year and Region 6 Coach of the Year.

- Palmer Ridge marketing and business teacher Courtney Bushnell was recognized as Distributive Education Clubs of America (DECA) New Coach of the Year.
- Lewis-Palmer High School journalism teacher Carrie

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