

for full-day kindergarten.

Superintendent Karen Brofft commented that parents will no longer have the choice of half-day morning or afternoon kindergarten. They may choose to pick up their children at noon and the class day will be designed to cover core subjects in the morning.

She said that all schools have the capacity to support full-day kindergarten.

Wangeman commented that the district may need to increase the transportation fee charged to students for the use of school buses. Bus drivers are hard to find, and it may be necessary to reconsider routes and increase walking distances.

The board discussed opportunities for promoting the proposed bond, including the Fourth of July Parade and community meetings.

Regular meeting, May 20

The board recognized the achievements of two student teams at its regular meeting. *See photos on page 9.*

The Prairie Winds Chess Team, under coach Peter Wise, won first place in the K-6 division of the U.S. Chess Federation's National Championship in Nashville, Tenn. on May 9. Wise and several team mem-

bers, many of whom also won individual titles, were at the meeting.

The Palmer Ridge Bearbotics robotics team with coach Craig Johnson were recognized for their participation in state, regional, and world competitions. The FIRST Robotics World Competition was held in Houston in mid-April. FIRST represents For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology.

Students from both Palmer Ridge and Lewis-Palmer High Schools participate in the robotics team, with a total of 35 members.

Students designed and built the robot, named "Matt Damon" for the character in The Martian, over more than 3,600 hours.

The team came in first among 52 teams competing in the regional competition in Utah.

Public comments

Jeanette Breton, a sponsor of the robotics team, praised their achievements and dedication and requested that the district find a way to provide more space in which the team may work and store their equipment, as they now need to bring everything out of a storage space and return it.

Cynthia Fong-Smith and Renee Gargas spoke about school start times and that research has shown that sleep deprivation can reduce the ability to learn. Gargas said that several districts in Colorado have altered their start times and requested the creation of an ad hoc committee to study the issue.

Jackie Burhans, parent of a 2017 graduate, said she had attended retirement events for several of her son's teachers and was sad to hear that others planned to leave the district because they did not feel supported. She said that the district needs to provide good working conditions for teachers.

Nichole Murphy, Jenni Simpson, and Molley Ketchell of the Meet and Confer Team said they value the opportunity to meet with district representatives but requested that the superintendent and a board member also attend their meetings.

Board members' comments

Pfaff congratulated this year's graduating class and said how he enjoys attending graduation. His son was a member of the robotics team in the past and he praised the value of that experience.

D38 (Cont. on 10)

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INFORMATION:

- 1 June 10th-14th / June 17th-21st / June 24th-28th
Performance: date & time (TBA)
- 2 Hours:
Students Ages: 7-10 years @ 9:00a- 1:00p (Academy)
Students Ages: 11-13 years @ 9:00a-4:00p (Jr. Company)
Students Ages: 14- 20 @ 9:00a-4:00p (Sr. Company)