

the impact of the pandemic. He suggested asking Herrera and her teams to begin making plans in case the school is not done in time. He would like backup plans for where to house ninth-grade students and any additional students at lower grades.

Teachers' raises and one-time payment

The board discussed a proposal to raise teachers' pay by 3% and provide a one-time payment to all employees aside from the COO. The 3% is based on past years and the desire to stay ahead of the inflation rate of 1.8%. This amount fits into the current budget. McWilliams noted that MA hopes to have a mill levy override (MLO) in the fall election season; D38 board liaison Tiffney Upchurch said the district is early in the process, but an MLO would include MA. McWilliams said MA wants to get behind the MLO and make sure it benefits all D38 and increases teachers' salaries compared to the other districts in the state.

The one-time payment is new and reflects a desire to hand a blessing of \$1,000 each to all employees. Board member Megghan St. Aubyn asked if this was tied to performance, and McWilliams replied that all employees performed this year and had to start the year without an executive director in place.

Board election

McWilliams indicated that the board election process should start in April. Board member Susan Byrd said MA needs to vote in two new members in May, so she wants to get information out in April. She said the board should meet with candidates in mid-April and set up a community meeting toward the end of April so the vote could take place in May.

McWilliams said he wants to open it up early to solicit candidates and have them fill out a questionnaire. The position starts at the end of June and the new board members will be sworn in in the June/July

timeframe. After a discussion on how elections were run in the past and efforts to improve the process, the board directed Byrd to use the two weeks off to see how other boards run elections.

Highlights

The following items were highlighted at the board meeting:

- McWilliams reported that the School Accountability Advisory Committee (SAAC) met on Feb. 24 and did a mid-year survey analysis to present at the April board meeting and started its review of the school with respect to the family-school-community national standards. It will finalize that review, discuss the end of year survey, and review the Uniform Improvement Plan (UIP) at its next meetings. The UIP is due to the district in mid-April. McWilliams noted that dates of the next SAAC meetings, its reports, and the UIP deadline might change.
- The board unanimously approved the updated MA Uniform and Dress Code policy for 2020-21 after discussing layering, costumes, and novelty headbands. See <http://bit.ly/ma-policies>.
- The board unanimously approved giving hiring authority to the MA administration to begin staffing for 2020-21 for the new school and growing the current school. The plan includes support staff and assistant principals at each campus.

The next meeting was moved to Wednesday, May 6 due to conflicts. The MA School Board usually meets at 6 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month in Lab 312 at 1150 Village Ridge Point. Given the current situation, those interested in attending the meeting are encouraged to check the website at <http://www.monumentacademy.net/school-board> for up-to-date information on the location and timing of the upcoming meetings.

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TRIVIEW (Cont. from 1)

ceptor (NMCI), would be a regional system and potentially serve Triview, Donala Water and Sanitation District, Forest Lakes Metropolitan District (FLMD), Monument Sanitation District, Palmer Lake Sanitation District, and Woodmoor Water and Sanitation District No.1.

McGrady confirmed that Triview water attorney Chris Cummins had reviewed the agreement and determined that changes from the first draft were not substantial.

The first phase of the NEPA process calls for a public scoping meeting to establish all environmental issues that will be studied. Pending postponement or cancellation due to COVID-19, the scoping session is tentatively scheduled for May 5 at Library 21c.

McGrady later reported on an opportunity to possibly expedite progress on the U.S. Air Force Academy Visitors Center (AFAVC). Engineers designing the wastewater pipeline for the AFAVC face tricky construction challenges and significant delays due to a wetland crossing, a protected Preble's meadow jumping mouse habitat, and other environmental issues. The idea was proposed to construct a wastewater line from the AFA to the Donala booster pump station just east of the I-25/Northgate Road interchange whereby wastewater from the AFAVC could then be pumped to and treated by the Upper Monument Creek Regional Wastewater Treatment Facility (UMCRWWTF). Triview, Donala, and FLMD are partner-owners of the UMCRWWTF and Triview, McGrady estimated, uses about 50% of its apportioned treatment capacity at the facility.

This potential temporary measure would allow the AFAVC to use a portion of Triview's excess wastewater treatment capacity and thus expedite availability of the academy's hotel and other amenities. The arrangement, if agreed upon, is estimated to operate for about five years until the NMCI is functional and connected to the AFAVC.

McGrady expressed support for the idea as a means to stimulate regional development and for Triview to play a key role in assisting the AFAVC. Director Anthony Sexton expressed being "uneasy" with such an arrangement due to Triview's potential need for additional wastewater treatment capacity resulting from the district's projected growth and development over the next few years. McGrady responded that a maximum of 120,000 gallons per day is the AFAVC's anticipated need, which leaves substantial capacity for Triview. He added that those same concerns would be addressed in the details of the agreement established among the respective entities. McGrady received board support in continuing the "excess capacity" discussion.

COVID-19 assurances detailed

Water Superintendent Shawn Sexton enumerated safety precautions practiced by water staff to keep the system and water supply coronavirus-free. He explained that the district's water supply comes from wells in excess of 1,000 feet deep and delivered to treatment plants in underground pipelines and, therefore, not exposed to the airborne virus. Treatment operations are conducted exclusively indoors and treated water is contained in a protected environment. The chlorine disinfection phase of treatment inactivates the virus by halting its replication. When

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