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The department now has two student interns.
Unified Improvement Plans
 The committee divided into subgroups to review Unified Improvement Plan (UIP) documents for all schools.

These documents, required by the Colorado Department of Education (CDE), detail various aspects of a school's strengths and weaknesses with regard to student performance.

Based on standardized test scores, various subgroups of the student population, including those with disabilities, those on a free/reduced lunch plan, and those in gifted/talented programs, are evaluated according to a state-determined scale varying from "exceeds expectations" through "nearing" to "does not meet expectations."

School administrators then explain steps to be taken to rectify weaknesses and how the efficacy of these actions could be measured. In some cases, this includes a change in curriculum or added time dur-

ing the week to address certain subject matter. The UIPs presented at this meeting applied to the 2019-20 school year. Because Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS) tests were not administered last spring during pandemic-caused closure, it was difficult to compare that year's achievement to that of the previous year.

Reviewing these documents is part of the charge of DAAC. These documents were in draft form.

The D38 District Accountability Advisory Committee meets five times a year. In the past, each meeting has been at a different location and included a tour of the campus. This year, due to the pandemic, all meetings have been held virtually. The next meeting, the final one of this academic year, will be on Tuesday, April 13 from 7 to 8:30. The meeting may be viewed on the district YouTube site.

Harriet Halbig may be reached at harriethalbig@ocn.me.

Monument Academy School Board, Feb. 11
Board discusses High School options, updates board policies

By Jackie Burhans

The Monument Academy (MA) School Board held its regular board meeting on Feb. 11, where members discussed expanding High School options and updating board policies. Board member Chris Dole was absent.

High School options

MA Secondary School Principal Julie Seymour reported having discussions about onboarding high school freshmen to the Naviance system for college and career readiness to facilitate the required Individual Career and Academic Plan (ICAP). The ICAP guides students and families in exploring career, academic, and postsecondary opportunities. Seymour said freshmen should be able to access Naviance by the fourth quarter of the school year. Christianna Herrera, chief operating officer (COO), said that Naviance will help students identify and reach their goals whether that is college or not.

Seymour is also having meetings about offering dual enrollment (DE) through Pikes Peak Community College (PPCC) as well as concurrent enrollment (CE) taught in house. Teachers with a master's degree in a subject can become qualified to teach CE. These programs allow students to take college courses and get credit both at college and at high school. Seymour said that, in theory, high school students could have their associate's degree by the end of high school.

Herrera said MA will work with PPCC and Brigham Young University for additional choices. She noted that PPCC also has trade courses. Herrera said MA is hoping to join in with the existing D38 contract. MA pays for the DE and CE courses so long as the student passes with a C grade or higher. Textbooks and other fees are covered by the student's family. Transportation is not provided.

Board policies

The MA board considered and approved several board policies both before and after an executive session to discuss legal matters. The following policies were unanimously approved:

- 1500A—Board of Directors Governance—Added clause that the chief operating officer and the chief financial officer, along with two board

members, will annually review and execute the contractual agreement with legal counsel for all organizations pertaining to MA.

- 1500B—Chief Operating Officer—Added statement about legal counsel as in 1500A.
- 1500C—Chief Financial Officer—New policy for a newly added position. Added statement about legal counsel as in 1500A.
- 1511—Admissions—Added definition of "open seat."
- 1512—Open Records Request—Updated hourly charge amount per law along with changes based on other district and state guidelines.
- 1513—Staff File Access—Changed wording from Executive Director to Chief Operating Officer plus other changes required by law.
- 1514A—MA Board Code of Conduct—Changed number from 1514 in anticipation of adding policy 1514B in the future, added annual board self-assessment, fixed reference to Colorado Revised Statutes.

MA board policies can be found at <http://bit.ly/ma-bd-policies>.

MA joins Education Alliance of Colorado

Board member Ryan Graham tabled an agenda item reporting on a new charter school group called the Education Alliance of Colorado (EAC). MA subsequently released an announcement that can be found on its website at <http://bit.ly/ma-eac>. EAC is currently working on an appeal to governing bodies to better formulate processes for school quarantines. See its website at <http://edallianceco.org>.

Highlights

The following items were highlighted at the board meeting:

- Elementary School Principal Charlie Richardson said MA got help from Davonne Johnson, Learning Services director for D38, on how to certify teachers for the K-3 Reading to Ensure Academic Development (READ) act.
- Richardson met with the chief engineer on the Highway 105 plans that include changing the ingress and egress of MA. It is a massive project that is at least a year away and it's complicated to use federal funding for charter school improvement.
- The west campus School Accountability Advisory Committee (SAAC) met to hear the recently completed Uniform Improvement Plan (UIP) but needs more time to digest the information before reporting to the board.
- The east campus SAAC completed its UIP in February and reported it to the District Accountability Advisory Committee (DAAC). The SAAC

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