

school calendar was to remove the alternate block schedule and go to a regular schedule of seven periods per day with Friday as a half-day, reported Holmes. Due to construction, he removed start times from

the calendar; parents should check the website for up-to-date information. New teachers are to report on Aug. 1 for orientation, and there are 7 1/2 snow days built into the calendar, according to Holmes. The

board unanimously approved these changes.

The MA School Board usually meets at 6 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. The next regular board meeting

will be on Thursday, June 9, at 6 p.m. on the East campus. See more information at see <https://bit.ly/ma-boe>.

Jackie Burhans can be reached at jackieburhans@ocn.me.

Lewis-Palmer D38 Board of Education, May 16

Board reviews preliminary budget that includes raises, welcomes new Kilmer principal, celebrates achievements

By Harriet Halbig

The Lewis-Palmer D38 Board of Education reviewed a summary of the proposed 2022-23 budget at its May 16 meeting. A new principal for Ray Kilmer Elementary School was introduced, and many student and faculty achievements were celebrated.

Chief Financial Officer Kitte Overton presented an overview of the 2022-23 district budget. This budget was based on a conservative estimate of 6,445 students. The 2021 October count for 2021-22 is 6,328.5 (preschool students and those participating in the Homeschool Enrichment Academy count for less than an entire full-time student).

Based on information from the state, Overton estimates that the per pupil operating revenue in the coming year will be \$9,050, or more than \$550 per pupil above this year's revenue. This increase will yield an additional \$4.5 million for the 2022-23 school year, enabling the district to offer an average 6% increase in compensation, depending on the category of employment. Certified employees (teachers) would receive an average 6% plus \$500 to restore a step they did not receive in the past year. Classified

employees (support staff) would receive 6% while those in clerical, technical, and security would receive 9%. Employees in transportation and food services received a market adjustment last year. Those in administration would receive a 3% increase. The pay schedules were approved by the board as part of the consent agenda at the May 16 meeting.

Overton said the district received funds from the federal government in 2020-21 for nutritional services to allow the district to provide lunches and breakfasts during the pandemic.

This funding will no longer be received in the 2022-23 school year. Money left over from federal funding must be spent on nutritional services. Due to inflation and supply chain issues, the cost of a meal will be raised by \$1 to \$4.10.

It is also proposed that the fee for bus transportation will need to increase due to increased cost of diesel fuel. The proposed new fee will be \$115 per semester per pupil. The changes have yet to be finalized.

In response to a question from board Treasurer Ron Schwarz, Overton said that the compensation increases do not include substitute teachers and she

agreed that, due to increased revenue, the amount of the annual budget devoted to salaries and benefits will decline from 86% to 82%.

Overton said that a next step will be to prepare a five-year projection to include anticipated increases in insurance costs.

Superintendent KC Somers added that even with these compensation increases, the district will not close the gap between itself and other nearby districts. In his superintendent update earlier in the meeting, Somers said the district will also offer signing and retention bonuses to new staff. This is already being done in nearby districts.

New principal for Ray Kilmer Elementary

Somers introduced Brian Pohl as the new principal for Ray Kilmer Elementary School.

Chosen from many applicants, Pohl has over 25 years' experience in education including as a teacher and a high school principal. He was recognized for his empathetic listening and communications skills.

Superintendent update

Somers updated the board on district ac-

tivities in keeping with the strategic plan.

He said that the district has received the results of a second community survey and will report on it at the June meeting.

The district has received a Counselor Corps Grant from the state to be spent over several years. In the coming year, ESSER III (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief) funds will be used to hire an additional counselor at the middle school and one at each high school. After that, the grant money will cover the salaries of these positions.

End-of-year assessment results have been received and will be analyzed.

The district is facing hiring challenges with 19 certified and 14 special education vacancies. Because other districts have been offering hiring bonuses, District 38 will do the same. In addition to recruiting, the district will stress retaining quality staff.

The Engage and Elevate community meetings have been completed, and a recap and newsletter will be sent out shortly.

Recognitions

Darin Dawson of video/software company BombBomb was recognized for donating furniture and office equipment to

MONUMENT LOCATION NOW OPEN

NOEL RELIEF CENTERS

A NEW APPROACH TO PAIN RELIEF

We offer several new treatment options for pain relief and optimal health. #

5.0 ★★★★★ 17 Google reviews

*** \$39 NEW PATIENT SPECIAL ***

Includes Consultation with Dr. Noel, Pulstar Electronic Spinal Alignment, Physical and Neurological Exam, and Report of Findings.



Dr. Patrick Noel, DC

CONDITIONS TREATED:

- Back Pain
- Neck Pain
- Headaches / Migraines
- Sciatica
- Arthritis
- Tendonitis
- Herniated Disc
- Frozen Shoulder
- Trigger Finger
- Rotator Cuff Syndrome
- Plantar Fasciitis
- Carpal Tunnel Syndrome
- Jaw Pain / TMJ Syndrome
- Sports Injuries
- Sprain / Strain Injuries
- Fibromyalgia
- More...



CALL TODAY! (719) 359-9947



NOEL RELIEF CENTERS
950 Baptist Rd #130
Monument, CO 80132

Located next to Starbucks on Baptist Road