



Above: Lewis-Palmer Middle School Gifted/Talented teacher Amy Robinson was recognized by the Air and Space Force Association as Teacher of the Year locally and at the state level. Pictured (L to R): Director Todd Brown, Treasurer Ron Schwarz, Vice President Kris Norris, Secretary Patti Shank, Amy Robinson, Superintendent Amber Whetstine, Lewis-Palmer Middle School Principal Courtney Harrell, and Board President Tiffney Upchurch. *Photo by Jackie Burhans.*



Above: Retiring Lewis-Palmer Principal Bridget O'Connor was recognized for her contributions to the district. O'Connor attended D 38 schools from kindergarten through high school. Board Treasurer Ron Schwarz, Board President Tiffney Upchurch, Board Secretary Patti Shank, Lewis-Palmer High School Principal Bridge O'Connor, Superintendent Amber Whetstine, Vice President Kris Norris, and Director Todd Brown. *Photo by Jackie Burhans.*

a 2.8-acre parcel of district land. The board voted at that time to create a final land sale agreement.

The agreement includes the statement that this land is surplus and will not be needed in the foreseeable future. Surveying has been completed. One board member requested that the agreement include a statement that the district would have right of first refusal should TLC decide to sell at a later date. Ridgway said he would consult legal counsel about including such a statement. He also said the agreement includes a description of its use.

The Town of Monument still needs to subdivide that property formally. A vote on the sale will be held at a future meeting.

Response to Monument Academy regarding purchase of Grace Best Education Center

The board received a letter of intent from Monument Academy dated March 31, 2025 to purchase Grace Best Education Center.

The board voted at its Jan. 21, 2025 meeting to recommend demolishing the building.

Following discussion at its May 6 work session, the board voted to decline the offer from Monument Academy.

This decision was also supported by the fact that the building was in poor condition and the land has worth to the district for possible intergenerational uses. With this in mind, the property was not declared to be surplus and of no use in the foreseeable future and therefore not for sale.

Recognitions

The Bearbotics team was recognized for its performance in competitions this year. Coaches Matt Middleton and Eric VanDenHoek explained that the program has been in existence since 2011 and is international in scope.

This year, the team attended national and international competitions. At the international competition, the team placed 14th of 75 teams competing. At the regional competition in Oklahoma City, the team placed 81st of 3,190 teams.

The coaches said that the team currently has 29 members, from grades 9 to 12, of whom several were to graduate the next day.

Palmer Ridge High School DECA (Distributive Education Clubs of America) members were awarded Gold Certification for the D38 Enterprise at this year's International Career Development Conference in Orlando, Fla.

D38 Enterprise occupies a building which has formerly been a preschool in the D38 administrative campus. The Enterprise performs such functions as printing T-shirts and hats, large format banners and stickers, and binding and embroidery services.

The enterprise earned \$70,000 this year, all of

which stays in the district.

Advisor Brady Hanson (Palmer Ridge Business/Marketing teacher) said the award is for school-based enterprises which are entirely student-run. The certification recognizes outstanding achievement by school-based enterprises and motivates them to strive for excellence and growth.

The three levels of certification are bronze, silver, and gold. D38 Enterprise received gold certification. Hanson displayed the award plaque, pointing out that it had spaces for four more awards.

Lewis-Palmer Middle School teacher Amy Robinson was recognized by the Air and Space Force Association as Teacher of the Year locally and at the state level. She now qualifies to compete at the national level.

Robinson has increased course offerings from seventh grade to include eighth grade in the areas

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