



**Above:** From left, Women's Club members Sandi Liston, Donna Wagner, and Mary Mills pose with grant recipients Dena Sikole (Adapted PE), Diana DeLoux (Palmer Ridge High School Science) Laura Johnson (occupational therapist), Susan Larson and Jami Murphy (Palmer Ridge Booster Club parents), and Cynthia Eversole (Lewis-Palmer Elementary School music teacher). *Photo by Harriet Halbig.*

students.

The department also sponsored a visit by Foodplay, a national award-winning theater production to teach students about healthy eating and the importance of an active lifestyle. The production was offered to all elementary students, Monument Academy, homeschoolers, and the St. Peter Catholic School students.

**Communications update**

Community Relations Manager Robin Adair reported that there have been a number of developments during the past month regarding community communication in preparation for a possible mill levy override proposal on the November 2013 ballot.

The Board of Education held a work session the previous week with principals of all district schools to discuss priorities and a consistent message for all schools to present to parents and other members of the community.

The number of individuals on the district's Key Communicators list is now 150.

Superintendent Borman is also involving students in the communication process. He was contacted by the Palmer Ridge High School Student Council to learn how they may participate in the effort.

Adair also reported that she attended a meeting with a group of realtors from the Pikes Peak area. D-38 was one of five districts that attended. She said that it was encouraging that the realtors acknowledge the value of a good school system in supporting property values.

**Enrollment report**

Assistant Superintendent Cheryl Wange-

man said that the Oct. 1 student count showed the district to be short of the expected number by slightly more than 11 students. However, she anticipates that the goal will be reached when the partial funding for part-time students such as those in the Home School Academy and the Transitions program are added to the total.

**Palmer Ridge High School presentation**

Principal Gary Gabel introduced Brianna Downs and Eric Sabelstrom, who gave a presentation on the activities of the Palmer Ridge High School Student Council. They described the structure of the council and its contributions to the school and the community through fundraising, teacher appreciation, community service, and school spirit.

Some of the activities supported by the council are the homecoming dance, Snow Ball, prom, and tailgate parties. These events are all well attended and raise funds for the school.

Examples of teacher support are teacher breakfasts and the provision of free babysitting so that teachers can have a night out or participate in back-to-school nights or teacher/parent conferences.

Charities supported by the council include the Make a Wish Foundation, Habitat for Humanity, and such original activities as the Ninjas who support random acts of kindness such as leaving a flower and a card of support on windshields in parking lots.

Palmer Ridge will host a meeting of the Colorado High School Activities Association on Oct. 19-20. There will be representatives of 65 schools from

throughout the state.

**Superintendent update**

Borman reported that he would be present at Palmer Ridge High School the following day to welcome the delegates to the Colorado High School Activities Association.

Parent conferences were conducted during the previous week.

Lewis-Palmer High School participated in the Cool Science Festival at the University of Colorado at Colorado Springs the previous weekend.

Borman also enumerated recent athletic achievements by district teams.

The board also discussed and approved the charge for the District Accountability Advisory Committee and approved the contract for superintendent for the 2013-14 school year. This motion extended Borman's contract until June 30, 2014, and increases his salary by 2 percent. Members of the board commended Borman's achievements and said that they made a smart choice when they selected him for the job.

Board member John Magerko said that he would attend the meeting of the Colorado Association of School Boards on Oct. 19-20. He said that he has spoken with Gail Wilson, his predecessor, regarding activities of the group. The conference produces a list of proposals to be presented to the state Legislature on such issues as term limits for board members and adjustment of salaries to expedite filling difficult positions.

In their final comments, board members said that they continued to be impressed by the district's staff.

Board Vice President Mark Pfoff commented that he opposes Amendment 64 on the state ballot. This amendment would legalize the sale of marijuana in a manner similar to alcohol. He said he was particularly offended that proponents of the amendment use the fact that tax revenues would support education in the state.

Ferguson said that he was very impressed with the presentation by the Palmer Ridge students.

Magerko said that a result of the previous week's work session was to strive to pay teachers and other employees well enough so that financial concerns do not distract them from their jobs.

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