

the Math Triumphs curriculum as needed. Teachers have undergone additional training and are focused on early identification of students with math difficulties and encouraging them to join a weekly math club. Some students receive an additional three hours of help each week. Teachers may receive additional training during the summer regarding math vocabulary.

Bear Creek Elementary report

Peggy Parsley of Bear Creek Elementary (BCES) reported that her school is meeting state requirements in academic achievement and academic growth and some growth gaps. She has found that the EDM curriculum is insufficient for students with disabilities who require intervention. BCES is also using the Math Triumphs intervention and has introduced Moby Math, a computer-based resource that offers a pre-test to show a student's weaknesses and allows teachers to assign specific exercises. The program can be accessed from the school library or from home.

Lewis-Palmer Middle School report

Students with disabilities are also rated as "approaching" in the area of reading.

Seann O'Connor, principal of Lewis-Palmer Middle School (LPMS) said his school is meeting state requirements in Academic Achievement and Academic Growth, but seeing weakness in math and writing among those on free/reduced-price lunch, English Language Learners (ELL), students with disabilities, minorities, and those needing to catch up. The Northwest Evaluation Association (NWEA) is the program used by LPMS to monitor student progress in the fall, winter, and spring. The daily Academic Enrichment period is a time used to provide help.

O'Connor said in his document that budget cuts over the past several years have severely curtailed support and interven-

tion resources. Professional development for teachers will be sought to help them identify students who require additional support and to monitor their progress.

Monument Academy report

Lis Richard of Monument Academy reported that her school exceeds state requirements for academic achievement and meets requirements for academic growth and many academic growth gaps. NWEA testing is being used as an evaluation and monitoring tool.

She said weaknesses appear in growth gaps in math for free/reduced-price lunch students and those needing to catch up and in reading among free/reduced-price lunch eligible students. All students meet or exceed standards in writing.

The middle school segment of Monument Academy's student population meets or exceeds standards in academic achievement and academic growth, with weaknesses in reading and math among free/reduced-price lunch eligible students and minorities. Students needing to catch up are rated "exceeds" for reading and "approaching" in math and writing.

Richard said improvement targets proposed by the school for academic growth and academic growth gaps were met in the 2011-12 school year. The plan includes mention of the fact that there has been a large influx of new students who show a lower overall achievement level that will require more interventions and differentiated instruction.

A science fair has been added to the school's program to respond to the state's new emphasis on analyzing and problem solving in science.

The district-level Unified Improvement Plan will be presented at DAAC's April meeting.

Legislative and budget report

Board of Education Liaison John

Magerko reported that Assistant Superintendent Cheryl Wange-man is working on development of the district's 2013-14 budget. She has been finalizing enrollment projections and staffing levels. In April she will present an overview to DAAC, including site allocations for principals and compensation and benefits packages. In May the proposed budget will be presented for board and public review.

Regarding legislation, Magerko reported that the Lobato v. State of Colorado case involving constitutionally adequate education was in oral arguments.

Senate Bill 15 allowing electronic attendance of Board of Education meetings was passed by the House Education Committee. This bill allows board members to attend meetings and vote electronically.

The School Finance Act involving an overhaul of the funding formula was under discussion. Some key aspects of the act are:

- Funding would be expanded for at-risk students and ELL students, and consideration of cost of living would be eliminated.
- The funding formula would use daily electronic monitoring of Average Daily Membership.
- A need-based formula based on a district's assessed property value and the median income of its residents would determine a district's share of state funding.
- Enhanced special-education funding would be added to satisfy the federal mandate.
- Funding would be provided to education for at-risk 3- and 4-year-olds, and full-day kindergarten would be funded.

Magerko reported that the Colorado Association of School Boards questions the issue of the amount of funding determined to be sufficient and whether the bill would attempt

to compensate for the losses of the last several years.

The District Accountability Advisory Committee meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Locations vary.

The next meeting will be held on April 9 in the district's Learning Center, 146 Jefferson St., Monument.

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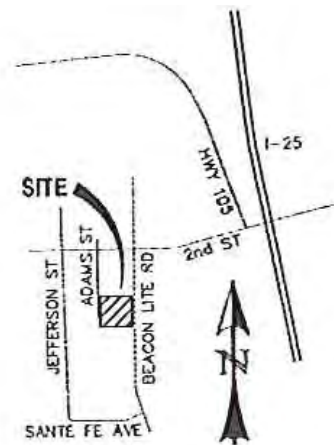
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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

Monument Board of Trustees, March 11

Beacon Lite Assisted Living Center approved



By Jim Kendrick

Since May 17, 2004, Jamie Hull had presented numerous development proposals to the Monument Planning Commission and

Board of Trustees for his vacant city block between Grace Best Elementary School and Beacon Lite Road. Hull's proposals included duplex patio homes, a town police and courthouse building, a senior living center with over 40 dwelling units, a high-density, three-story traditional neighborhood residential area, and a hotel plus a library building.

Numerous proposals for various forms of senior housing had also been discussed by the Monument Board of Trustees as well as the Palmer Lake Town Council in the past several years. Then the Board of Trustees formally approved Hull's site plan

proposal for the Arbor Mountain Senior Living Facility in the Village Center development. The Town of Monument donated its vacant lot on Gold Canyon Road near the intersection of Highway 105 and Lake Woodmoor Drive to the Arbor Mountain project. But this project could not obtain sufficient financing and the town took back its lot.

On March 11, the Monument Board of Trustees approved the Beacon Lite Assisted Living Center replat, planned development (PD) site plan, and vacation of some adjacent right-of-way for the 57-bed assisted living facility

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