

D38 (Cont. from page 1)

Palmer Ridge High School Principal Gary Gabel and industrial arts teacher David Bedia recognized volunteer Red Stephens for his contributions as a volunteer at the school. Stephens has served on the Land Use Committee, founded the district's Senior Alli-

ance, has built pitching mounds, cabinets, and other items for the school, and was active in creating the district's Transitions program. Stephens received a Palmer Ridge High School jacket with his name on it and a plaque.

Superintendent John Borman thanked the transpor-

tation and maintenance staffs for their work in plowing parking lots and driveways and for making it possible to smoothly dismiss students early due to snow.

Borman also reported on some upcoming events, including the all district choir concert, a community leader program, and the arts awards show spon-

sored by the Air Academy Credit Union.

Financial actions

The board voted to approve the expenditure of \$147,101 for curriculum materials for math and social studies. Details had been provided last month by Director of Assessment, Gifted Education and Technology Lori Benton. The materials are necessary due to changes in state standards.

The board approved an agreement with American Fidelity Assurance to provide health benefits to district staff. Director of Personnel and Student Services Bob Foster said that the firm offered the best price for disability benefits last year and will now offer disability benefits with no prior approval for a limited time.

The board voted to extend some contracts for certified personnel and administrative staff and to terminate other contracts of licensed probationary staff. Borman reminded the board that a number of teachers were hired last year with no intent of renewal.

Board Treasurer John Mann reported that a new firm had been selected to audit the district's finan-



Above: Volunteer Red Stephens, second from right, was recognized by, from left, Dr. Jeffery Ferguson, board president, Palmer Ridge High School industrial arts teacher David Bedia, and Palmer Ridge Principal Gary Gabel. Photo by Harriet Halbig. For more photos from the meeting see page 29.

cial matters. The firm is CliftonLarsonAllen LLC, which has been retained for one year with the possibility of renewal for four additional years. The firm specializes in public sector finance.

Assistant Superintendent Cheryl Wangeman reported that she would like to pursue a Best Grant of \$700,000 to support half the cost of a number of capital projects in 2013-14 and a Great Outdoors Colorado Grant to fund repaving of the playgrounds at Lewis-

Palmer Elementary.

Other projects include an upgrade to the motor control at Lewis-Palmer High School and electrical work for a computer lab at Lewis-Palmer Middle School. The latter is required for testing at the school.

Monument Academy's preliminary budget was approved. Wangeman said that the student count is predicted to remain the same next year and the special education budget has been increased to reflect a growing special education population.

Members of the fifth-grade class at Kilmer Elementary performed for the board as the Proposition Posse.

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The Lewis-Palmer D-38 board meets at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month at the district's Learning Center, 146 Jefferson St., Monument. The next meeting will be on May 16.

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

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