

Assessment update

Director of Assessment and Gifted Education Lori Benton presented the results of the spring Colorado Measures

of Academic Success (CMAS) tests in social studies and science. These tests were administered for the first time last spring, with grades 4 and 7 taking tests in social studies and grades 5 and 8 taking tests in science.

The levels of achievement were "distinguished command," "strong command," "moderate command," and "limited command."

Benton said that these assessments are geared to post-secondary readiness rather than whether students are achieving at grade level.

The district exceeded the state's achievement standards in all cases. The district ranked sixth for fourth grade, fifth in fifth grade, second in seventh grade and third in eighth grade for the state compared with other districts with more than 100 students. Benton said that the teachers were disappointed in the results and are looking for ways to improve the scores next year.

Benton said that achievement growth cannot be determined because the test has only been administered once.

Exceptional Student Services update

Director of Exceptional Student Services Mary Ann Fleury reported that there have been good results in terms of improvement in scores by students with disabilities, notably an improvement in reading and math in elementary school, math and writing in middle school, and reading and writing in high school.

Fleury said data are difficult to compare from one year to the next because students enter and exit the programs.

The department received a \$12,000 grant due to its improvement and expects an additional \$73,000 to be allotted to the English Learner program, which serves 275 students.

Communications update

Community Relations Manager Robin Adair reported on efforts to improve the current communications program following discussions with students, teachers, staff, parents, and other community members.

The conclusions were to keep any messages brief, deliver any newsworthy information to the community, customize information based on the recipient, and make face-to-face contact with the recipient whenever possible.

It was decided that it would be useful to consolidate the various calendars available and make sure that district staff is kept apprised of all developments. In the near future an online survey will be made available.

Recognitions

The board recognized the Lewis-Palmer High School Girls Volleyball Team for their state championship. This was the second consecutive championship year for the team, which has the best record in the country.

The board commended a number of high school students who received commendation as National Merit Scholars.

The board congratulated Lewis-Palmer High School

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