

service academy nominations among graduates, and last year graduates were offered more than \$14 million in scholarships. ACT scores are among the highest in the state.

Communications update

Community Relations Manager Robin Adair briefed the committee on her department's recent activities involving im-

provement of the district's goal of informing all groups, such as students, parents, businesspeople, and other stakeholders of the district's activities and programs.

Adair said that a survey will appear on the website inviting all parties to register their opinions and offer participation in the district's activities.

Among the goals of the department is the need to streamline communications by reducing the number of calendars and other sources of information available.

Adair distributed a list of communications channels including social media, postal mail, print and broadcast advertising, press conferences, and

other means of informing the public and internal groups of developments and activities.

She emphasized that communication is a fluid process and that it is critical to maintain an ongoing relationship with various focus groups going forward.

The District Accountability Advisory Committee meets at

7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Locations vary. The next meeting will be on Jan. 13 at Lewis-Palmer Elementary School, 1315 Lake Woodmoor Dr., Monument.

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

Lewis-Palmer D-38 Board of Education, Dec. 18

Board celebrates awards and achievements of district

By Harriet Halbig

The Lewis-Palmer D-38 Board of Education celebrated a number of achievements by its schools and individuals at its Dec. 18 meeting.

Superintendent Karen Brofft announced that four of the district's schools were named James Irwin Schools of Excellence by the Colorado Department of Education. These were Lewis-Palmer High School, Palmer Ridge High School, Prairie Winds Elementary, and Monument Academy. This award recognizes academic achievement.

Among the individuals honored were Stephanie Johnson, English learner facilitator, whose program received the English Learner Proficiency Assessment Excellence Award, which includes a monetary award, and Kathryn Holley, a world language teacher at Lewis-Palmer High School who recently received national board certification.

Lewis-Palmer Middle School Band Director Michael Mozingo was chosen as one of "50 directors who make a difference" by School Band and Orchestra Magazine.

Brofft also announced that the district has been Accredited with Distinction for the fifth consecutive year. She said that the

district's scores were second-highest in the state. She thanked Director of Assessment and Gifted Education Lori Benton for all of her effort in maintaining this distinction.

Brofft also mentioned that the Colorado Department of Education rated Palmer Ridge High School as one of the top 10 in the state. Lewis-Palmer High School was rated 14th.

Palmer Ridge High School Principal Gary Gabel introduced the school's cross country coach, Kelly Christensen, who introduced his 4a state championship team.

Superintendent's update

Brofft reported briefly on the board's ongoing strategic planning into such matters as curricula, online assessments, and programs. She said that some of the planning was prompted by Palmer Ridge graduates who wished they had more technology experience before attending college.

Among concerns of the board were legislation regarding assessments, school safety, the Public Employees Retirement Association, and protection of digital student data.

Brofft said that she hoped that the governor's proposed budget would withstand challenges by the Legislature.

Assistant Superintendent Cheryl Wageman reported that a safety and security audit is underway. She said that discontinuance of the federal school lunch program at the high school level is going well, with sales of school lunches increasing due to the larger portions.

Wageman also reported that there is now a map of reunification sites to be used in the event of school evacuations and that custodial personnel will do deep cleaning of district facilities over winter break to avoid spread of flu.

Instructional technology update

Wageman reported that she, Benton, and Director of Curriculum, Instruction and Professional Development Sheila Beving have studied the district's technology resources with regard to online assessments, the district's website, and the district's Internet system.

Wageman pointed out that the district has not had a technology director for a number of years, and creation of this position is under consideration. An audit firm has been retained to evaluate the situation beginning in January. She said it is hoped that the district's new website

would be online by August.

The district will also purchase a license that will organize all Board of Education information to make it more easily accessible to the public. This information would include

background on board resolutions and PowerPoint presentations. In this way everyone could see the information available to the board during its meetings.

(Continued on page 21)



Thrift Store

790 Suite D, Hwy 105 (between Palmer Lake and Monument)
Open Monday through Saturday, 10 AM to 4 PM

January Savings!

20% OFF ALL FABRICS

LOOK FOR OUR WEEKLY SATURDAY 1/2 OFF SALES!

20% OFF ALL LINENS

Wednesday Discounts
20% off everything for seniors 62 years or older!

Have a couple of spare hours a week? Why not help the community by volunteering at the Thrift Store. Call 488-3495 for more information.

All proceeds support Tri-Lakes HAP Senior Programs.



INTRODUCING

Automated

PAY-BY-PHONE

ANYTIME DAY OR NIGHT

719-494-2681

The system is automated, and all of your personal information, such as account or card information and payment amount, will be entered by you. Have your account number handy.

BENEFITS INCLUDE:

- Secure, direct connection
- Pay using credit/debit card
- Make inquiries about your bill
- Update your phone number in our records

There's No Additional Fee!





MOUNTAIN VIEW ELECTRIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
Your Touchstone Energy Cooperative

THE FINEST HOMES, SERVICE & RESULTS



Mark Rudolph
Your North Springs Resident
Real Estate Expert

mrudolph@erashields.com
(719) 492-3974 Cell
(719) 593-1000 Office





BENT TREE II
* Peaceful 2.68 Acre Estate* Trees and Mature Landscaping* Impeccable* Perfect Home for Family & Entertaining* 4Bed/ 4Bath/ 3Car* Recently Updated Kitchen and Baths* 2-Story Great Room* Walk-Out/ Theater/ Wet Bar/ Sauna/ Office* Move-in-Ready* Enormous Covered & Open Deck/Patio* Superior Landscaping* 4,758 Sq. Ft.* SD-38* Top Quality* \$599,000*



BROADMOOR GOLF COURSE
* To Be Built* East Edge of Course* Huge Views of Mtn. Course and Cheyenne Mtn.* 4Bed/ 3Bath/ 3Car* Customizable Ranch Floorplan* Unbelievable Quality* High Country Homes* Granite/ Hardwood/ Stucco* All the Trimmings* Enormous .80 Acre Lot* 3,768 Sq. Ft.* SD-12* \$699,000*



FOOTHILLS PRIVACY
* Stroll, Hike Bike the Nearby Trails* Updated Rancher* 5Bed/3Bath/2Car* Wide Open Floor Plan* Wood Fireplace* Wet Bar* 2,663 Sq. Ft.* Fabulous Covered Composite Deck* Pella Windows* Granite* Stainless* A/C* Hot Tub* Perfect Combination of Indoor & Outdoor Living* SD-20* \$325,000*