

Citizens' comments

Tammy John expressed her concerns about the use of the TS Gold readiness assessment, and especially her concern about data privacy and parents' rights.

Sarah Sampayo, a candidate for a school board seat, shared information about a recent teleconference regarding Common Core. She encouraged the board

to use local control to opt out of its use.

At the August board meeting, Sampayo spoke about the new social studies text book. John spoke about notifying parents about new curriculum.

The Board of Education of Lewis-Palmer D-38 meets at 6 p.m. on the third Thursday of each month in the district's Learn-

ing Center, 146 Jefferson St., Monument. The next meeting will be on Oct. 16.

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

LPEA District 38 Board of Education Candidate Forum, Sept. 9

Candidates for School Board speak to the community

By James Howald

On Sept. 9, the Lewis-Palmer Education Association sponsored a forum for candidates running for seats on the District 38 Board of Education in the district's administration building at 192 Front St.

All candidates invited; three do not attend

Eight candidates are seeking a seat on the District 38 School Board in the election to be held on Nov. 3: Dale Bastin, Kris Beasley, Matt Clawson, Sherri Hawkins, Lani Moore, Mark Pfoff, Gordon Reichal, and Sarah Sampayo. All eight were invited to attend the forum and were sent a questionnaire. Bastin, Beasley, Clawson, Hawkins and Pfoff attended the form; Moore, Reichal and Sampayo did not attend. Beasley, who was out of town on business, attended by phone bridge.

Moderator establishes rules

Tom Chapman, an instrumental music teacher in D-38 for six years, moderated the forum.

Each candidate was given two minutes for an opening statement. Chapman then asked the candidates 11 questions. Each question was initially assigned to specific candidates, who were given two minutes to answer. After the first answers, the other candidates were given one minute to answer the same question if they elected to do so. Finally, all candidates were given two minutes for a closing statement. There were no questions from members of the audience.

The forum was streamed on the internet live. It can be seen online through USTREAM (<http://ustream.com/1r4Vy>).

Note: This article, for reasons of space, summarizes the candidate's remarks. The complete event can be seen online at the URL given above.

Hawkins's opening statement

In her opening statement, Hawkins said she had been appointed to the board in 2013 and was running to validate her appointment with the voters. She has two children at Palmer Lake Elementary School. Active in the Parent Teacher Organization and a classroom volunteer, she worked as a teacher and a coach after graduating from Ohio State. Her family chose to live in D-38 because they valued the high quality of the education the district offered, Hawkins said.

Beasley's opening statement

A desire to pay something back to the community motivated Beasley to run for a seat on the board, he said in his opening statement. His goal is to ensure that the district continues to develop "well-rounded, academically ready, creative, and globally aware citizens," he said, adding that he wants to see the district's history of excellence continued.

After 28 years in the Air Force, Beasley and his wife chose to live in D-38 because he wanted to give his children the best education in the state, he said.

Beasley has served on the District Accountability Advisory Committee for a year and a half, and wants to maintain the district's excellent results and fiscal responsibility, he said.

Pfoff's opening statement

Pfoff and his wife have lived in the district for 18 years, have two children in district schools, and

he has served on the board for seven years, he said.

He has been endorsed by retired D38 Superintendent Ted Bauman and by retired D-38 Principal Judy Jadowski.

Pfoff views teachers as a key contributors to students' education, he said, adding that during his time on the board he has never declined an invitation to meet with any of the district's employees.

Pfoff pointed out that he does not agree with those who say incumbency is always an advantage. In the election held eight years ago, all the

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