

sideration to the way that the inevitable negotiations are headed.”

- Julie Jadowski celebrated the community spirit in evidence at a recent Pride Assembly at Lewis-Palmer Middle School.

The Board of Education of Lewis-Palmer D-38 generally meets on the third Thursday of the month in the district’s Learning Center, 146 Jefferson St. at 6 p.m.

James Howald can be reached at

jameshowald@ocn.me.



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Monument Academy School Board, March 10

MA contemplates branding change from core knowledge, approves increased class size

By Jackie Burhans

The Monument Academy (MA) School Board met on March 10 to discuss the school branding, curriculum, exceptions to class size standards, and the teacher survey along with other subjects.

Rebranding from core knowledge

Principal Lis Richard reported on a curriculum summit held at The Hideaway with a handpicked group of teachers, Executive Director Dr. Don Griffin and others. The group discussed MA branding, noting that MA has always branded itself a core knowledge school but feels conflicted about it. They feel that the foundation website (www.coreknowledge.org) doesn’t match MA’s values. MA needs to determine if it is happy to be identified with that brand or if MA is mature and doesn’t need that branding as a crutch to carry the school.

Under leadership and guidance, a

group is putting together a framework of a scope and sequence, Richard noted, adding “We have now for the first time an actual solid philosophy that is guiding our steps.” She noted that the board provides the mission and vision and indicated that MA will still use the resource of core knowledge. The curriculum committee with the help of key staff members is putting together a document on why MA is making this change to bring to the board next month. Another action team will put together a process MA will follow on ordering new curriculum and how it aligns with MA’s philosophy, state standards, and values. Richard said that a lot of teachers are feeling that the board made a resolution some time back identifying what we are not and, given the change in core knowledge direction, it is important that MA identify who we are.

Increasing class size

The board unanimously approved an increased class size to accommodate the “bubble” class for fifth grade. This class is



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Teacher Spotlight: Tim Templeton

Tim Templeton began teaching in Lewis-Palmer School District in 1995. Over the years, he’s taught at Palmer Lake Elementary, Grace Best Elementary, and Creekside Middle School. He can now be found instructing sixth graders to write at Bear Creek Elementary.

While Tim does not enjoy paperwork or advancing technology, he greatly enjoys his students. He encourages their sense of humor, loves their connections to each other, and believes that kids remember teachers as people, not the lessons. Tim loves catching up with former students when they stop by to visit and seeing how they have grown up. Tim states that the caliber of teachers he works with in Lewis-Palmer School District in addition to the supportive atmosphere make him a better teacher.

Tim is a native Coloradan, hailing from the Penrose area and graduating from Florence High School. Tim loves American History, and during his time off, he visits presidential museums. The Reagan Library and Museum in California is next on his list. Visiting a museum can take him all day as he reads everything.

Tim loved school growing up and cannot imagine working in any other environment now. Tim says he knew he was destined for Lewis-Palmer – his grandparents have a homestead in Gunnison called the Lone Pine Ranch. The ranch’s brand is L/P.





April

LPSD Upcoming Events

April 7-9	Palmer Ridge High School Play: <i>Play On!</i>
April 8	Regular Class Day Grades pK-12
April 15	No Classes Grades 7-12
April 15	Regular Class Day Grades pK-6
April 19	All District Choir Concert, 7:00 p.m., PRHS
April 28-30	Palmer Ridge High School Play: <i>Almost, Maine</i>

Lewis-Palmer School District

HALL of FAME

NOW ACCEPTING NOMINATIONS

Lewis-Palmer School District #38 is now accepting nominations from the community for inductees to the 2016 Hall of Fame. Anyone may nominate a person who has made significant, ongoing contributions to the excellence of District 38 schools. The awards seek to honor teachers, support staff, administrators, volunteers, elected officials, and community members. Application forms and information about how recipients are chosen are posted on the District website at www.lewispalmer.org under the Community Tab.

Deadline: April 30, 2016



TLWC and Kiwanis Provide Significant Funding

Due to the continued grant funding from the Tri-Lakes Women’s Club and the Monument Hill Kiwanis Club, Lewis-Palmer School District students in the Adapted Physical Education Program are able to participate in swim lessons and water safety classes. Forty one students with disabilities (this is twice as many as last year) benefit from swimming because of these two groups’ generosity. Swimming and water safety are important skills for kids with disabilities, especially those with autism, as drowning remains the leading cause of accidental death among autistic children. Students work with trained swim instructors and LPSD staff including para-educators, a physical therapist, adapted physical educators, and special education teachers. When the Tri-Lakes community supports the fundraising efforts of TLWC and Monument Hill Kiwanis, LPSD students receive significant benefits.