

mill levy override (MLO) was to exclude Monument Academy, but that in fact it is unethical to exclude 15 percent of the student population from funding.

Steven Philips commented that he chose to move to the district because of the quality of its schools, but now fears that, with the current shortage of new teachers, the district will be unable to maintain the current excellent quality of staff. He said that due to the fact that many district

teachers are retired military and therefore receive a pension in addition to their salary, the district is enjoying an advantage.

Members of the board thanked the citizens who came to share their comments.

#### Superintendent update

District Superintendent Karen Brofft reported that an academy will be held for teachers to improve their technological skills and discuss curriculum. A draft of student technology skill requirements is

ready, and the district has received an English Language Proficiency Act Excellence Award.

Wangeman reported that Lewis-Palmer Middle School will be taken off of federal funding for its lunch program beginning in the fall. The high schools took this action a few years ago when federal requirements for protein were significantly reduced and consequently many students chose to leave the campus for lunch. The nutrition program in the high schools returned to profitable status within the year and it is assumed that the middle school will follow suit. The action will be on a trial basis initially.

Wangeman also reported that the district's bond rating is AA2, due to a healthy tax base and a strong financial position.

Board President Mark Pfoff, through questions to Wangeman, determined that the district budget has been balanced since 2008 and that the district is audited annually and has received awards for the quality of its financial reporting. Budgeting in

the district is a fluid process with reviews each month.


Board Treasurer John Magerko commented that perhaps the district should re-examine its salary schedule, particularly in comparison with other local districts.

Director Sarah Sampayo suggested that the budget could be presented in a more straightforward format, perhaps using footnotes and definition of terms. She also suggested that salary schedules should be made more accessible and that teachers should receive the same percentage increases as others.

The budget was approved and the board voted to carry forward projects now underway.





#### Monument Academy contract

The board passed a motion to sign a 10-year contract with Monument Charter Academy and submit it to academy officials for signing. (Addendum: A press release the following day said the contract had been renewed and the district remains the authorizer for the academy. Monu-



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