

D38 (Cont. from 1)

had the bond passed last year, the district would have pursued an accelerated building plan for the new school so that it would have opened in August 2019. This alternative would have involved working double shifts to meet the deadline. However, now that modular classrooms have been provided to

alleviate overcrowding on a temporary basis, Taylor suggested that the district should take more time in order to bring costs down.

Taylor said it was clear that Pfoff opposed including Monument Academy (MA) in last year's bond and asked whether law required that charter schools be included.

Assistant Superintendent Cheryl



Above: Steve Waldmann, back row, center, introduced some of the winners of the district chess tournament, held the previous week. *Photo by Harriet Halbig.*

Wangeman said that in districts that passed bonds in the past few years, charter schools were included.

Superintendent Karen Brofft said that since the proposed bond covered a single issue, MA should not expect to be included and that the board is only required to inform MA of what they are doing.

Board President Matthew Clawson agreed that, since the bond includes only one elementary school, MA should not expect to be included.

Pfoff said that when last year's bond was complicated by including security improvements at all facilities and an unspecified use by MA, the community became confused. He said he thinks the public will be more supportive of a single issue. He agreed with the use of a normal building cycle and the use of portables for two years.

Director Theresa Phillips agreed that the board needs to align its goals and that is easier when the goals are well defined.

Board Vice President Tiffney Upchurch stressed that candor and honesty must prevail during the campaign for the bond. She said that the board is essentially approving a K-8 campus.

The resolution passed unanimously.

Pfoff said that he and Taylor would work together on bond language, presenting their results at the board's March meeting.

Brofft said that the administration will offer its support as needed, but most successful bond issues are led by the board.

Clawson suggested meeting with members of the District 20 board to learn how they were successful in passing a bond last year.

Superintendent search update
Director of Personnel and Student Services Bob Foster reported that the interview teams have been selected, there have been over a dozen applications (the deadline for applications

was Feb. 14), and the board will meet in executive session on Feb. 19 to screen the applications for the new superintendent.

On March 4 the board will announce the finalists (the recommended number is three) and background checks will be begun. Interviews will be on March 15, and the new superintendent will be selected and announced on March 18.

Foster said that informal gatherings of the candidates with community and staff members have not yet been planned.

Budget priorities discussion

In response to a request from Taylor during the Feb. 4 work session, Wangeman presented a comparative list of priorities for spending among various districts, including such issues as size of administration, spending on facilities, community services, and debt financing. Districts examined included those that are nearby and those with a student population comparable to District 38.

Taylor thanked Wangeman for the information and encouraged to board to use the information in formulating next year's budget.

Superintendent update

In her superintendent update, Brofft said there will be a second Thoughtexchange period from Feb. 13 to 24 and the question to be discussed is: How can the district develop trust and inspire confidence? Thoughtexchange is an online survey.

Brofft also reported that CRP architects have notified the district that the cost of the modular unit at Bear Creek Elementary (four classrooms for preschool) was underestimated. Requirements for preschool classrooms are specialized. As a result of the situation, the modular for Bear Creek and that for the middle school are expected to be available as planned, in time for the 2019-20 school year, but those for Kilmer and Lewis-Palmer Elementary may be delayed.

Brofft also said that open enroll-

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