D38 (Cont. from 8)

Board Secretary Theresa Phillips urged all members of the community to get involved with the schools by volunteering and following the actions of the board. She said that teachers, drivers, and other district employees take a personal interest in students, knowing their names and families, and many put in extra hours grading papers and planning. She stressed that the district should maintain a competitive compensation scale and read a letter from a teacher who is supporting three children as a single parent.

Upchurch said that she also is a robotics parent and thanked sponsors of the team. She also encourages the

community to recognize and support teachers and to compensate them well.

Board Treasurer Chris Taylor congratulated Monument Academy for having its plan for a new facility passed by the Planning Commission and looked forward to seeing it open in the fall of 2020. He stressed, however, that although the school would provide additional seats at the elementary level, it will not improve the overcrowding at the middle school.

Board President Matthew Clawson welcomed new Superintendent K.C. Somers to the meeting. Clawson said that he attended the dinner for retiring teachers and shared the concern about losing teachers.

Brofft reported that each high school has received \$5,500 for support of the Sources of Strength program from the Kiwanis. The Kiwanis also donated \$7,000 to scholarships.

Responding to board comments about compensation, Brofft said that the proposed 3 percent increase in the coming year was made possible by deferring maintenance to some district facilities. To continue offering raises at this rate, she said, would require an additional revenue source.

Brofft also mentioned a new Youth Mental Health Coalition to coordinate services in that area.

Wangeman reported that district grant writers were successful in getting support for BEST (Building Excellent Schools Today) grants for a new roof at Prairie Winds and a boiler for Kilmer

Elementary. The district is on the short list for both proposals. The district's matching contribution (45 percent of the cost) for the Prairie Winds roof is in the 2019-20 budget.

Addressing middle school crowding

Taylor showed the board the 2019 Bond Information section of the district website which provides information on a number of subjects including the design of the proposed elementary, financial information, Grace Best information, and information on the state school funding process. See www.lewispalmer.org/domain/1470.

Clawson suggested that information on the ballot initiatives which funded the construction of Palmer Ridge also be included. That year, the initiative to fund the construction passed, while the initiative to staff the building was not. He said that people still talk about it.

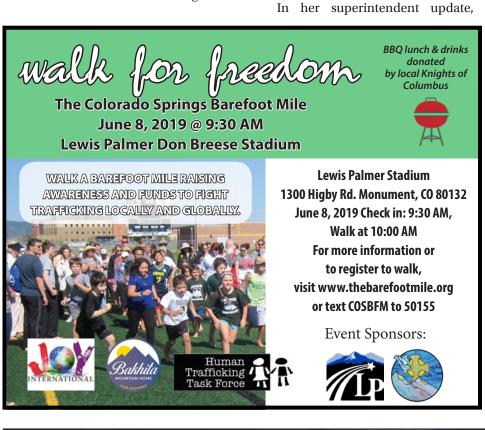
Phillips also said that we need to distinguish the difference between bonds and mill levy overrides.

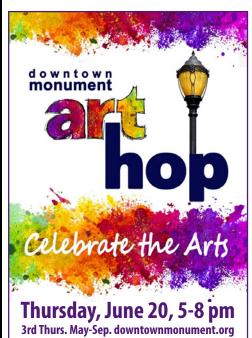
Taylor reminded the board that they agreed to be 100 percent behind the passage of the bond. He asked that all members read the information on the website and report any questions or comment to Brofft.

The meeting was adjourned early due to deteriorating road conditions.

The Lewis-Palmer D-38 Board of Education will have a special meeting at 6 p.m. on Monday, June 3 and a regular meeting on June 10 in its Learning Center, 146 Jefferson St., Monument.

Harriet Halbig can be contacted at harriethalbig@ocn.me.







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