

their parental authority and the school would be glad to exploit that. He said that tonight's town hall is not to wage war against any schools but to go after those who have set their sights on our children. Although some say MA is creating a hostile environment, he said, MA's goal was to protect all students, citing a disputed statistic on transgender youth suicide rates. Graham said that MA protects the truth and was being ridiculed, mocked, labeled, and threatened. He thanked the Lord for the courage, conviction, and resolve of many of the board members he served with, saying "we can win and, God willing, we will win, even if we get tossed in the fire."

The board passed the policy on a vote of 6-1 with Buczkowski voting no.

Board resignation

At a special meeting on Jan. 22, Graham reported that Buczkowski had resigned from the board on Feb. 12 thus leading to a vacancy. Buczkowski's term was set to end on June 30. Per the board's bylaws, Graham said, the board could appoint a replacement or run as a six-member board until the June 30 election, and he moved to do so. The board unanimously approved the motion.

Graham noted that Buczkowski had been the board treasurer and that position needed to be filled. Carle agreed to serve as treasurer.

Buczkowski had been on both the Finance and Governance Committees. Carle was already on the Finance Committee and Graham offered to join as the second board member. Board member Karen Hoida was already a member of the Governance Committee and Belisle offered to step in as the second board member. Belisle asked for a second member to join her on the Curriculum Committee and Clinton agreed to do so.

Graham noted that, per their respective bylaws, the Monument Building Corp. and Monument Foundation, two 501(c)3 organizations which hold the West and East Campus debts, required a MA board member representative. Since Buczkowski, as treasurer, had been on those two boards, Graham formally moved that Carle replace him as the MA board representative. The board unanimously approved this motion.

Finally, the board unanimously authorized a change in the approved bank signers to remove Buczkowski and replace him with Carle.

Highlights

Board meeting highlights include:

- Carle spotlighted student Addison Michalak, an MA middle schooler who competed as the United States of America Track and Field (USATF) national junior championship placing fifth in the 3K cross-country 11-12 girls' division. She was named USATF girl athlete of the year.
- Acting Chief Financial Officer Glenn Gustafson noted that the Employee Retention Tax Credit program had been suspended by the Internal Revenue Service in December due to rampant fraud, then reopened with a much earlier deadline of Jan. 31. MA has submitted for \$1.3 million in payroll costs and might receive it in summer of 2024 but has been advised to sit on it in case of an audit. He also noted that MA was due \$180,000 from the charter startup grant it received and must now find eligible expenses for which it could be reimbursed. Finally, he reported that the interim School Finance Committee had proposed changes to the School Funding Act that could result in School District 38 as a whole losing \$3 million.
- Analytical Diagnostics consultant Jennifer Strawbridge presented the MA mid-year academic data shown in the meeting highlights at: <https://bit.ly/ma-20240208-highlights>.
- The board unanimously approved moving forward with the Monument Academy Home-school Partnership program after getting full



Above: At the Feb. 9 meeting, Monument Academy board member Craig Carle spotlighted student Addison Michalak, an MA middle schooler who competed as the United States of America Track and Field (USATF) national junior championship, placing fifth in the 3K cross-country 11-12 girls' division. She was named USATF girl athlete of the year. Pictured are Carle, left, and Michalak. *Photo by Jackie Burhans.*

support from Gustafson to invest in it knowing it may need to be subsidized for two years from West Campus cash reserves.

- School Culture and Assessment Coordinator Anna Arndt brought the board's attention to a new policy for state testing which gives students a score even if they only partially complete a test. Toward that end she asked the board to consider changes to its policy 1525 State Assessment Refusal Policy and allow administration to alert parents to upcoming changes to that policy. The board agreed to allow a letter to be sent and the policy to be reviewed at its next meeting.
- Director of Academics Tine Leone described the process used to replace the Saxon Math curriculum, which is going away, with Reveal Math. She thanked everyone involved and said that after the public review period the board will be voting on March 14. She hopes to order teacher editions of the curriculum before people leave for the summer.
- The board unanimously approved the executive director hiring timeline in March and April, which includes a screening committee meeting, a regular board meeting, a special board meeting and executive session, informal interviews and site visit, another special board meeting and executive session and an April 4 community town hall, culminating with a public vote on hiring the new executive director on April 11.

The MA School Board meets at 6:30 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. The next regular board meeting will be on Thursday, March 14, at 6:30 p.m. at the East Campus. See more information at see <https://bit.ly/ma-boe>.

Jackie Burhans can be reached at jackieburhans@ocn.me.

ALTERATIONS SPECIALIST

On-Site Tailoring



10% OFF

ALTERATIONS

Must present coupon at time of drop-off. Prepayment required. Cannot be combined with other offers. Expires 3/31/24.



487-0268

1030 W. Baptist Road
By King Soopers
M-F 7:30 am - 7 pm
Sat. 8 am - 4 pm

FIRESIDE SWEEPS
CHIMNEY CLEANING + REPAIR
WOODBURNING + GAS FIREPLACES
**CLEANING
REPAIRS
INSPECTIONS
SERVICING**
303-246-9573
www.firesidesweepsco.com

PIKES PEAK PROPERTIES

Our listings sell!

Just Listed!

862 Long Timber Lane, Monument
MLS: 2536476 \$2,200,000

Pending!

2220 Terri Lee Drive, Peyton
MLS: 5255338 \$925,000

Sold!

13165 Stone Peaks Way, Peyton
MLS: 897056 \$675,000



Tanya Bingham, Cassidy Jones, Darrell Wass, Kelly Gehrmann, Kristin Dionne, Thomas Hoang, and Frances Sikich



719.822.1444



**RE/MAX
ADVANTAGE**

Each RE/MAX Brokerage Business is Independently Owned & Operated

Monument Dental Arts

"We practice minimally invasive techniques using the highest quality materials to insure healthy, esthetic teeth for the life of our patients." - **Dr. Tony George**

1880 Willow Park Way Suite 101, Monument
(719) 488-8880 • www.monumentdentalarts.com

BBB BOOKKEEPING
BY BOBBY, INC.

(719) 488-2308

Complete Bookkeeping & Payroll Services
bookkeeping@bobbid.com

Quick Books Training and Setup
IRS Clean-Up

KAREN BUTCHER
Independent Insurance Agent
Your One-Stop Shop in 50 States

With over 23 years of experience, I would love to help you with all of your insurance needs for Auto, Home, Umbrella, Life, RVs, Motorcycles, and more.

Call or text: (719) 221-1339
karen@westcoins.com

WestCo Insurance

Daytime Dance Classes
ATimeToDanceColorado.com

Home school friendly!

Tuesday
Musical Theatre Dance, 2:00-3:00
Lyrical/Worship Dance, 3:00-4:00
Hip Hop, 3:15-4:15

Thursday
Ballet, Tumbling, and Poms, 11:00-12:00

Friday
Tap, 4:00-5:00

All classes are for ages 6+

INTERESTED IN A COWORKING COMMUNITY MAKERSPACE?

LET US KNOW!

SCAN THE QR CODE TO LEARN MORE!

A SURVEY BY
MONUMENTAL IMPACT & **BEARBOTICS**
ENABLING STUDENT EXPERIENCES

Your Dream Home in Promontory Pointe
5 bd, 4 ba, 3 car home nestled at the end of a cul-de-sac, boasting breathtaking views of Pikes Peak, USAFA, and the Front Range. Backs to open space. Open main level with hardwood floors, gas fireplace, and primary bedroom suite and large second bedroom. 3822 sq. ft. Move-in ready home offers easy access to I-25, shopping, and Fox Run Park. MLS# 3082145. Call us today!

Home Smart Realty...The Smart Move in Real Estate

Kathy Tutko
719-439-0362
Kathy@PikesPeakHomeTeam.com

Kim Rossbach
719-330-3277
Kim@PikesPeakHomeTeam.com

Find us at www.PikesPeakHomeTeam.com