



Above: The Palmer Ridge High School Cross Country Team was honored as the 4A state champions this year. Photo by Harriet Halbig.

forwarding one's own agenda. If you feel misunderstood, you should ask for clarification.

Pfaff then read a letter to the board saying that he is much busier than he expected since his retirement from law enforcement and founding his own business. He said that effective Jan. 19 he will resign as president of the board but will remain on the board.

He said that in this way the board would have a month to reorganize as needed.

The board voted to accept the letter and thanked Pfaff for his leadership.

Applied Trust technology audit
Brofft reported on an audit of the district's information technology (IT) by Applied Trust. The firm examined many aspects of the district's IT and determined which areas required improvement. They examined possible vulnerabilities that would allow outside individuals and commercial entities to gain access.

Applied Trust determined that it is very difficult to access personally identifiable data in the district's system, and that the district can determine who can control the data and how it can be controlled.

Brofft stressed that the district required a confidentiality agreement with the auditor before the study could be done.

Director Sarah Sampayo said that the district sent an email to the community announcing the hiring of Applied Trust and saying that there was no data breach. She wished to know the time period to which the email referred.

Director of Instructional and Informational Technology Liz Walhof said that she would look into the issue of whether in fact there was a breach, but an investigation at the time determined that there was none.

Assistant Superintendent Cheryl Wangeman said that the firm determined that no breach occurred. They did an audit to determine what they need to target for investigation.

Walhof commented that individuals continue to form their own opinions on the issue of a breach. She encouraged Sampayo to wait for the final report before drawing conclusions. Too much transparency in the process of investigation could increase vulnerability.

Board Secretary Matthew Clawson said that the district should have an annual audit by a third party to ensure that processes are up to date and secure.

Walhof said that it is also necessary to see the human part of the equation and not assume that any problem is technological. Ongoing professional development is necessary. In answer to a question from Clawson, Walhof said that passwords for staff and secondary students are changed every 180 days, with longer intervals for younger students.

Board Treasurer John Magerko also commented on the necessity to not share passwords.

Superintendent evaluation update

Magerko explained that the process for evaluating the superintendent's performance was similar to that for teachers.

Pfaff said that the board had approved the midyear evaluation and had asked Clawson to perform any necessary negotiations with the superintendent.

Magerko praised Brofft for her efforts in getting to know the staff and said that the staff now feel that they are being heard.

Clawson said that he has met administrators from other districts who feel that the district is fortunate to have her. He thanked Magerko for his time and effort in doing the evaluation.

Pfaff said that he has heard from many teachers how much they like her and her support of them and the kids.

Sampayo commented that the district was high performing before the arrival of Brofft and therefore all credit should not go to her. She said that teachers and parents are also important.

Clawson agreed but said that Brofft is important in that she provides direction.

Pfaff said that the resolution is simply to recognize the superintendent and show the board's commitment to her.

The board voted to approve the resolution, with Sampayo opposed.

Later in the meeting, the board approved the automatic one-year renewal of Brofft's contract. The initial contract was for three years.

Policy discussion

The board approved a revision of policy IKF regarding graduation requirements to include mention of district-provided on-line instruction.

The board discussed a new policy DCB regarding debt management. Wangeman said that this policy was created on the advice of the district's financial

advisor. The audit committee was also involved in its creation. The policy includes forms of debt, implications on credit, affordability, a debt issuance checklist, legal review, and other issues. The policy will be reviewed every five years.

Board recognitions

The board recognized Palmer Lake Elementary School fifth-grader Lauren Baker for winning the Tri-Lakes Phone Book art contest. Lauren will receive a plaque and other items from the publisher, and the school will receive \$500.

The board recognized the Palmer Ridge High School Cross Country Team, coach Larry Rudnicki, and assistant coach Rob Collins for winning the state 4A championship. Rudnicki said that the team also came in second in a national meet in California.

The board recognized Phyllis Robinette and Janet Sandstrom for renewing their national board certification. The renewal process includes submission of written documents, videos, and other analyses of their teaching abilities.

Public comments

Lewis-Palmer High School student Meiling Melzer read a statement objecting to the choice of *Thoroughly Modern Milly* as the high school's fall musical because she said it presents Asians as villains. She felt offended and unwelcome and found it especially offensive that this would be chosen as the musical during a year when the district is hosting a Chinese exchange teacher.

The teacher who chose the musical told Melzer that it was meant to prompt discussion.

Frank John commented that his son and others were on an alphabetized list that included family members, locker combinations, and grades and that the list was first hacked last December. He asked why the administration had not addressed the issue.

Consent agenda

Before passing the consent agenda, that board discussed a few individual items

- Sampayo asked where student fees go when they are collected. Wangeman said that the fees go into the general fund and then for purchase of supplies. In the case of technology, the fees cover licensing and software. Bob Foster, director of Personnel and Student Services, also commented that such sports supplies as balls and arrows are consumable. Wangeman said that students on free/reduced lunch or otherwise disadvantaged are exempt from fees. She said that, during the recession, parents surveyed said that they would rather have fees and keep programs than cancel programs.
- Sampayo expressed concern about the density of development around the middle school. Wangeman said that the district wishes to be a good neighbor and is adding an access point at the middle school. The district is also talking with El Paso County about the access road leading to Palmer Ridge High School. Developers in the area are discussing ways to create paths in the area to keep the kids from having to walk

ANGRY SNOWMAN
SNOW REMOVAL SERVICE, INC.
RESIDENTIAL • COMMERCIAL
References Available
Fully Insured
FREE ESTIMATES
650-4249
Serving Directory Area
Since 1995 • Tri-Lakes Resident

PikesPeakHomeTeam.com
Your Home to Colorado Real Estate

SOLD AT FULL PRICE!

Red Rock Treasure
Enjoy over an acre of ultimate privacy close to National Forest trails. This rare find features a Colorado contemporary open floor plan and passive solar energy savings. Only \$437,800 – call now!

TIME TO BUILD!

Choose from three beautiful, buildable lots – perfect for your dream home!

Oakdale Terrace - .47 ac - \$95,000
Enjoy stunning lake and mountain views!

Star View Circle - .28 ac - \$75,000
South sloping lot with mountain views!

Furrow Road - .6 ac - \$125,000
Rare level Woodmoor lot adjacent to large ranch.

Elegant Tall Pines Estate
You'll fall in love with this spectacular former Parade of Homes winner on 2.7 park-like acres in prestigious Tall Pines. An exceptional beauty with handsomely crafted cabinetry throughout, comfy in-floor radiant heat and three outdoor seating areas to take full advantage of breathtaking panoramic views. \$1,150,000.

Call soon for your private showing!

Kim Rossbach
Phone: (719) 330-3277
Kim@PikesPeakHomeTeam.com
Visit PikesPeakHomeTeam.com

RE/MAX Properties
1761 Lake Woodmoor Drive Monument, CO 80132

Let me put my 20-plus years of experience to work for you! We are your one-stop source for real estate services from Colorado Springs to Castle Rock!