

the MLO and bond. Pfoff said that if the bond passes and not the MLO, the district may be able to absorb the difference.

Taylor said it may be a mistake to spend on security in the bond while not funding the personnel. Brofft responded that money spent on capital improvements would not be wasted.

Pfoff said that his interest in security is strong enough that he would recommend funding the gun-sniffing dogs prior to the bond.

**Board of Education goals**

Taylor led a discussion on goals for the board to include engagement in long-range planning, a commitment to policy development, engagement of the community, and other suggestions.

He recommended that the board continuously evaluate its success in moving forward. He would like to finalize the list of goals and place them on the district website.

There followed a discussion of board goals versus superintendent goals. It was agreed that the superintendent goals should be compatible with those of the board. Brofft said that sometimes during board comments it seems as though the board wants to delve into the details of district administration. Although she agrees that the board and superintendent should hold one another accountable, it need not appear on the agenda.

Pfoff said that he felt board members were using their comments for the wrong reasons and suggested that they be limited in time.

Taylor agreed but asked for an exception at the April 19 meeting so that he could talk about Sampayo's leaking of confidential matters and sunshine laws. He said that the discussion could not be held at this special meeting because it was not being recorded.

**Budget discussion**

Wangeman said that a primary consideration in the budgeting process is compensation.

Taylor asked about the site-based budgeting model.

Wangeman said that each campus is allotted a certain amount of money. This is not based on a per pupil amount, as the compensation for teachers varies according to their experience.

The board briefly discussed the policy requiring individuals to state their addresses during public comments. They considered asking people to put their email on the sign-up sheet so there could be feedback, but it was decided that they did not want to be obligated to respond.

The board went into executive session to discuss the lease and sale of real property.

*Harriet Halbig may be reached at harriethalbig@ocn.me.*

*Monument Academy School Board, April 12*

**Board revises policies, approves budget**

*By Jackie Burhans*

The Monument Academy (MA) School Board met on April 12 to revise board policies and approve the 2018-19 budget. Board member Julie Galusky was absent.

**Board policy revisions**

The following policies were reviewed, discussed and unanimously approved by the board:

- 1501ES and 1501 MS Uniform Policy—Executive Director Don Griffin noted that the school deans looked to simplify the policy and get to a uniform enforcement of the policy, so they pulled together a representative parents group. The result is much simpler, with fewer choices in elementary school and incorporation of house colors for middle school. This replaces the previous, single policy 1501. They also incorporated Spirit Wear into the policy to drive business to the PTO website. MA plans to roll out a communication plan before beginning enforcement.
- 1516 Personal & Property Search Policy—Minor changes have been made to include the deans. Griffin noted that MA has a very tested procedure that is very cautious. No one searches purses, backpacks, or lockers by themselves; most of the times it does not involve teachers. He noted that, under state statute, there is no expectation of privacy for lockers, etc., which is made clear in the handbook. Griffin noted that extensive revision will be needed when the high school is opened due the different nature of car searches and dealing with students over age 18.
- 1522 Donations to MA Policy—When MA started, the board originally published a detailed list of clubs and activities that could take donations in order to encourage parents to donate. As a 501(c)(3) organization, MA can receive

donations, so the recommendation is to rescind this policy and simply follow operational policies.

Board policies can be read at <http://bit.ly/ma-bd-policies>.

**2018-19 budget**

Director of Finance Nancy Tive noted that per pupil revenue (PPR) might rise, but MA doesn't have a final number. MA is using the current student count and the PPR on the Colorado Department of Education website for the current budget. The current PPR is about \$360 higher for the coming year, but rumors are that it may increase again. The final numbers will be available in November. The budget was due to the district on April 15.

Tive noted there is an across-the-board 3 percent salary increase in the budget; the contribution percentage to the Public Employees' Retirement Association (PERA) hasn't been changed. There are rumors that PERA would like to have employers pay more, but the state might be bailing it out. MA increased insurance 3 percent for property insurance, but workers compensation is down by a couple of thousand dollars, she said. MA doesn't yet have the health insurance numbers, so it is guessing on the numbers. Griffin noted that MA is looking at another insurance product that may cap its exposure.

The board unanimously approved the 2018-19 budget.

**Other highlights**

The following items were highlighted at the board meeting:

- The second annual Grandparents' Day had over 500 attendees and raised over \$4,000. Kids used their iPads to record what grandparents call their grandparents and played the video at the event.
- The Eighth Grade graduation ceremony will be held on May 18 at the Springs Church (formerly the Phil Long Expo Center).

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