

district if there is no space, which they did this year. Building a new school will provide more seats and enrollment will then be reopened. "If you build it, they will come." But why should homeowners of D38 continually underwrite the costs of education for outsiders, whose parents pay nothing for that quality education?

And to claim a \$29 million bond is "cost neutral" is outright deceit. Santa Claus is not funding this school. The bond is structured with miniscule payments in early years and huge payments at the end. Additionally, it does not include salaries or operating costs. What D38 also forgets to mention is if the bond fails, your taxes would decrease substantially because two prior bonds are being paid off. This is exactly why it should not pass again. We don't trust you when you don't tell the full story.

I'm sure the D38 board members mean well in their attempts to advance the education of our children. But taking the easy way out by unnecessarily extending taxes is not going to cut it. Find another way or step aside and allow someone else who will. No one is anti-education, only pro-fiscal efficiency.

Patrick J. Kiernan

Why I support Matthew Clawson

I am writing this letter in support of candidate Matthew Clawson for Board of Education president. I have had the pleasure of working with Mr. Clawson's daughter and have had the chance to get to know the Clawsons personally as parents, as well as community members.

As a teacher who lives and works in our beautiful community, I have heard the heartfelt concerns of my friends, neighbors, and co-workers. These concerns hold deep meaning for me and directly affect my students, my livelihood, and my community, so I do not endorse candidates lightly nor am I politically motivated!

I believe Mr. Clawson will continue to utilize his knowledge and experience as a parent, community leader, and businessman to best serve our children and our community. We need a leader who has the foresight and integrity to face the issues and do what's best for our children. I know Matt Clawson is that visionary leader who has demonstrated that he truly cares for all of us and has the best interests of our children, teachers, and community at heart!

Matt Clawson has my vote and I hope that others will join me in re-electing him as our BOE president once more!

Debra Kimple

Here we go again

After getting soundly defeated in the election last year, the Lewis-Palmer D38 Board of Education is trying to push a lame bond issue down our throats again. I guess they think that no one will be watching in an "off-year election."

So, I need to ask again, why would anyone in their right mind give these people a blank check? Their history of waste is clear to those who look at the history of this board. They appear to be at the beck and call of the teachers union. We should concentrate on replacing this school board—and starting over.

Paul J. Lambert

Matthew Clawson, qualified to serve kids and community

I am writing in support of Matthew Clawson to serve another term on the School Board.

In a time when fiscal and ethical accountability seem lacking in society at large, at least on the political spectrum, we are fortunate to have someone in our community willing to share his talents and abilities and demonstrate his integrity in our behalf. Matt has helped guide the district in fiscal matters, local control, and increased transparency. He has not succumbed to the pressure from the state's overreach in mandating curriculum to our district. We as members of our district should be able to determine the needs of our students and teach curriculum that best fits those needs. I have known Matt for many years and am personally grateful for his willingness to serve us, to listen and to act in our behalf. He has the support of teachers, staff, and many parents and is very qualified to lead us in these trying times. Please join me in voting for Matt Clawson to serve on our School Board.

Shauna Lovejoy

Critical thinking and dreams

We ask our youth to be critical thinkers and yet we rarely provide them with real-life examples. In understanding what the upcoming school bond is about,

we all need to be thinking critically. First, it would be useful to go to original sources like those found on the district and state websites. Second, it would be useful to consult multiple sources for differing opinions. Regarding the second, please keep in mind that those who differ with the district's proposal have frequently changed their positions.

Simply put, some will oppose anything that the school district proposes. Originally some opposed the idea of building two new elementary schools, though projections indicate we will need them. When the board conservatively voted to pursue building one elementary and returning Bear Creek to a middle school, the opposition retorted that we should be building two elementary schools and by the way, they don't like the way the bond is structured.

Let's be clear. Our elected board members are volunteers who live in our district, pay property taxes here and in most cases have children who attend school here. Why would board members do anything to harm their own interests? Where is the logic in that?

Finally, we should all recall what adding a second high school did for our community. There are now two full arts programs, athletic programs, and a wider variety of academic courses. We have doubled a student's chances to dream of being the star quarterback or the lead soloist. The outcome has been state championships and accomplished, well-rounded students at both schools. Let's do our best to help our elementary and middle school students have the finest school experience that we as a community can provide. Please vote for 4A.

John Magerko

Vote for Clawson and for 4A

I will be voting to re-elect Matt Clawson to the D38 Board of Education. Currently serving as board president, Matt's vast experience and mature leadership have led the district well for the past four years. The Colorado Department of Education continues to rank D38 among the top districts in Colorado for educating kids, and I'd like to see that continue. A strong advocate for school choice and for all kids in the district, Matt is the perfect choice to lead District 38 as it continues on this path to success.

I will also vote "yes" on Issue 4A to approve a specific, single-purpose bond to build a District 38 elementary school in the Jackson Creek community. Building this elementary will enable the district to convert Bear Creek back to a middle school. This would complete the long-held plan to return to a two-middle school configuration. It will also alleviate the overcrowding that plagues the district and currently mandates the use of modular classrooms. While modulars may provide an adequate teaching environment, they are not hardened like our school buildings are. Thus, they do not provide the protection for students and staff that is, unfortunately, necessary in today's reality. 4A will allow D38 to provide a safer and more secure educational environment for all students and staff.

District 38 has a long and treasured history of leading the state in educational excellence. It has turned out top-notch students and citizens for decades. Let's keep it that way!

Join me and vote for Matt Clawson, and vote "yes" on 4A.

John Mann

Advancing the excellence of Monument Academy

Monument Academy, D38's public charter school, has been a gift for my family.

My oldest child enrolled in 2009 when the current building was 1 year old. I chose MA for the curriculum, including Cursive First, Saxon Math, and Core Knowledge. I am most grateful for the opportunity to have a choice in my children's public-school education in Lewis-Palmer District 38. A choice that has enabled my children to learn from highly dedicated, involved, and amazing teachers across every grade level at Monument Academy.

The current board of parent volunteers and administration at MA are working tirelessly on our new school campus, opening August 2020. MA is fortunate to have strong leadership during this period of growth and opportunity. I am excited for this new campus with its stunning and accessible location. Our community and school district will benefit from this new school. Our area needs solutions from many avenues to address our growth. I am fully confident our MA school board and administration will lead responsibly as the charter school does its part to help this community grow.

Vandy Mason

D38 bond and school board election

Eight months ago, I said I wanted to find out the truth about D38. What I found is that anyone can go to the Lewis-Palmer D38 website and click on "2019 Bond Info" and see factual information for themselves regarding the proposed bond, Grace Best concerns, student enrollment, how much the proposed bond would affect your property taxes, and many more questions you might have. I encourage you to be informed and go to this site.

I have attended D38 and MA school board meetings, and I have also met personally with Adam Cupp. Adam's campaign manager made it clear to me this was a political race to them. I can say without a doubt I support Matt Clawson to be re-elected to the board. Matt runs meetings in a professional manner but never forgets it really is all about the kids. I also support Ron Schwarz. Ron is from this community. If you "follow the money," Ron gets donations for his campaign from voters in D38. Ryan Graham has received substantial donations from people who do not live in the district. Why? It makes me wonder.

Personally, I have walked through Lewis-Palmer Middle School and seen the issues there, met with people I agree with as well as people who have different perspectives from mine, and viewed the information on the D38 website. I have done my homework. As a senior citizen, retired, and living on a fixed income, I choose to support the D38 bond this fall. Additionally, I choose to support Matt Clawson and Ron Schwarz. As someone who has spent the time to learn the truth, I can tell you that voting yes on 4A is exactly the right thing to do for kids and this community.

Terry Miller

Why I continue to support Matthew Clawson

I want to take a few moments to explain why I am continuing to lend my personal and professional support for the re-election of former D38 President Mr. Matthew Clawson to the Lewis-Palmer District 38 school board.

As a former high school educator, I currently hold a Colorado Teacher License, working with a five-year substitute authorization, as a substitute teacher for D38. Over the past four years, I have had several opportunities to speak with Mr. Clawson, regarding some of my professional concerns. He treats me with the utmost respect, listening patiently, taking my professional concerns to heart and then following through with an encouraging and proactive response. I am happy to report that there have been multiple increases in daily pay for substitutes over the past four years, finally bringing it over minimum wage.

As a parent of five children (two are LPHS graduates), I wholeheartedly support Mr. Clawson's desire to keep control of the Lewis-Palmer School District 38 on a local level, especially when it comes to supporting school choice and Monument Academy. Balancing the budget and controlling the operational debt, all while maintaining the high educational standards of our district, is an impressive record—one that speaks for itself. To date, Mr. Matthew Clawson has done a fabulous job for our D38 teachers and students, and I would appreciate being able to see his work continue for another term.

Stephanie Moore

Matthew Clawson is my choice for D38

I am supporting Matthew Clawson in the upcoming school board election. As a D38 teacher, parent, and member of the community, I know we need someone who has experience with the rigor this position requires and understands the complexity of our community and the varying positions and opinions that are part of us. Matthew has proven himself a calming force while serving our community as a school board member since 2015. He is intelligent, genuine, and works tirelessly for our schools.

Matthew is passionate about the children in our community and wants to see D38 continue to deliver the high level of education it is known for. For Matt it is "All About the Kids." He has worked to make sure teachers as well as parents and students feel like they have a voice and he has accomplished this by listening and gathering input about what works as well as what does not work for our district.

I hope you will join me in giving Matt your vote on Nov. 5, 2019.

Teri Ogden

Why our kids and community need Matthew Clawson

I have had the honor of teaching as well as raising