

has received around \$360,000 to help mitigate the effects COVID-19.

Highlights

The following items were highlighted at the board meeting:

- Strop reported that the construction company is working on a certificate in early August to allow furniture to be installed and teachers to be trained in the new campus.
- Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) President Kim Stoltenburg reported that they are working to put spirit wear sales online. They will be meeting by Zoom and are working with the group creating the PTO for the new campus.
- The board unanimously approved a Request for Proposal for technology support services at the new campus to include pricing for an in-person presence vs. on-call.
- Public comments included a question about whether the board had applied for a Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) loan and

a comment about temperature monitoring. A parent expressed concern that temperatures would be monitored all day without parental consent and might violate health privacy laws, set a dangerous precedent, and upset younger kids by leading to bullying and public shaming.

The next meeting will be on Thursday, Aug. 13 at 6 p.m. The MA School Board usually meets at 6 p.m. on the second Thursday of each month. This is expected to be a hybrid meeting in-person at 1150 Village Ridge Point and online using Zoom.

Email board@monumentacademy.net to get a Zoom invitation to the next board meeting and/or to submit comments or ask questions. See <http://www.monumentacademy.net/school-board> for the latest information.

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

TLMFPD (Cont. from 1)

The board began a detailed discussion of how it might conduct a search for Truty's replacement, what criteria to use, and what combination of board members and staff might be involved in the decision-making.

Lance said that by the next board meeting, a search committee and hiring board would need to be established to allow the new fire chief to receive a thorough handover. We should be looking for a candidate that does not want to change the world but keep things running as smoothly as it currently does, he said.

COVID-19 - EMS supplies

Truty said there is evidence that the supply chain for Personal Protection Equipment (PPE) is collapsing and although TLMFPD does have a three-month supply of PPE that the district aims to maintain, the N95 masks are still difficult to find. El Paso County and

the state and certainly the federal government are not going to help out and the district is on its own. As we experience an increase in burn rate, we are ramping up supplies in anticipation of a difficult second half of the year, he said. The district has applied for the reimbursement of COVID-19 expenses from the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Public Assistance Grant Program.

Battalion Chief of Training Jonathan Bradley said the district had received 240 KN95 masks in July that the district was price-gouged on, and a further 200 KN95 masks came from the Office of Emergency Management (OEM), even though we had specifically asked for N95 Masks only. We are pretty good on PPE and disinfectant, but the KN95 masks manufactured in China are not the same quality as the N95 masks which have increased in price six-fold since the pandemic began.

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- **Memberships Open - Join a Zoom meeting**
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- **Empty Bowls Dinner Planning Started**
 - First full week in October
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