

on Sept. 1. Nearby parking will be limited due to construction vehicles.

- IREA will upgrade the electrical system for the town and will address the excessive brightness of the lights on their poles.
- Elite Cranes has made some progress but is unlikely to meet its Sept. 15 deadline to leave its Palmer Lake site.
- In public comments, Judith Harrington, Jordan

Lee, and Linda Elliot alerted the board to possible violations of the town's light ordinance.

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The Board of Trustees is scheduled to hold three meetings in September, a regular meeting on Sept. 9 and a workshop and regular meeting on Sept. 23. See the town's website at [www.townofpalmerlake.com](http://www.townofpalmerlake.com) to confirm times, dates, and locations. While the Town Hall is being repaired, evening meetings will be held at the

Palmer Lake Elementary School Library at 115 Upper Glenway and daytime meetings will be held at Tri-Lakes Chamber Community Meeting House at 300 Highway 105. Meeting times may change. Meetings are normally held on the second and fourth Thursdays of the month. Information: 481-2953.

James Howald can be reached at [jameshowald@ocn.me](mailto:jameshowald@ocn.me). Jackie Burhans can be reached at [jackieburhans@ocn.me](mailto:jackieburhans@ocn.me).

### Lewis-Palmer D38 Board of Education, Aug. 16

## Board receives reports on Energy Performance Project, enrollment

By Harriet Halbig

The Lewis-Palmer D38 Board of Education learned of progress on Schneider Electric's Energy Performance Project, received enrollment projections, and recognized several current and former employees at its Aug. 16 meeting.

### Schneider Electric Energy Performance Project

Since its proposal was approved at the board's June meeting, Schneider Electric has completed the construction of security vestibules at Bear Creek Elementary School, Prairie Winds Elementary School, and Lewis-Palmer Elementary School.

These projects prevent outside individuals from easily accessing the classroom areas of the schools. The vestibules at Bear Creek and Prairie Winds were constructed inside the building, taking up part of the reception areas. The vestibule at Lewis-Palmer Elementary is outside the north entrance of the school.

Walls have been added between the reception area and classroom areas at Bear Creek and Prairie Winds to enable the schools to lock down the classroom areas in the event of an emergency.

These projects were completed before the first day of school, Aug. 18.

Future aspects of the project include:

- Replacement of interior and exterior lighting with LED fixtures.
- Converting building automation from pneumatic to digital to allow for energy savings when the buildings are unoccupied.

- Replacing various heating and cooling equipment, including a new boiler at Lewis-Palmer Middle School.
- Converting all bathroom fixtures to low-flow varieties.

It is hoped that the entire project will be completed in 2022.

In addition to the construction aspect, Schneider Electric is planning a promotional program to include signage at the sites where changes are made, a press release for social media, and a video upon completion of the project.

### Strategic Plan update

As was the case last year, the board will review its actions in relation to its five-step Strategic Plan over the course of the year.

The first step of the plan is to provide a safe, healthy, and welcoming school environment.

Reporting were Director of Student Services Rick Frampton, who also acts as the district's COVID coordinator, and Chief of Safety and Security Dennis Coates.

Frampton referred to the Schneider Electric project as an example of action to provide a safe environment through upgrades in security and air quality in the schools. He also mentioned ongoing training for staff in emergency preparedness and response.

There is an increasing emphasis on social and emotional wellness in the district. Lewis-Palmer High School Principal Bridget O'Connor has been active in studying this over the past few years.

Coates reported that the district's security team has

trained FBI and Sheriff's Office personnel and has hired a new school resource officer for Palmer Ridge High School. He said that sometimes parents request that he and his team intervene in case of suicide and other threats.

Frampton said that staff is trained in suicide prevention.

Frampton also said that, due to the diversity in the school population, cultural differences must be considered when responding to problems in the community. When necessary, the district can refer families to other local resources for help.

Regarding response to the COVID-19 epidemic, Frampton said the district continues to act on the basis of guidelines received from El Paso County Health authorities. These guidelines change frequently. At this time, it is recommended but not required that students wear a mask at school. The district wants students to feel comfortable making their own decision about this.

In the case of positive tests, there will still be a response. Five cases in a class are considered an outbreak, and the district will strive to maintain a 3-foot distance between students in an effort to keep healthy kids in the classroom.

### Enrollment report

Chief Financial Officer Kitty Overton reported that the enrollment figure at the time of the meeting exceeded last year's October count by 217. When Monument Academy, preschool and the homeschool and Transitions programs are included, that figure nears 400.

The projected student population is 6,274. Superintendent K C Somers reminded the board that this number could change by Oct. 1, because some families do not notify the district that they have moved. Funding is based on the October count.

Board President Chris Taylor asked whether the increased enrollment has necessitated hiring additional teachers. Somers responded that there will probably be a revenue increase following the October count, which would make it possible to do more hiring.

At this time, all open positions have not been filled. There is an additional section of kindergarten at Bear Creek Elementary. Other than that, there is not a large amount of growth at any specific grade level.

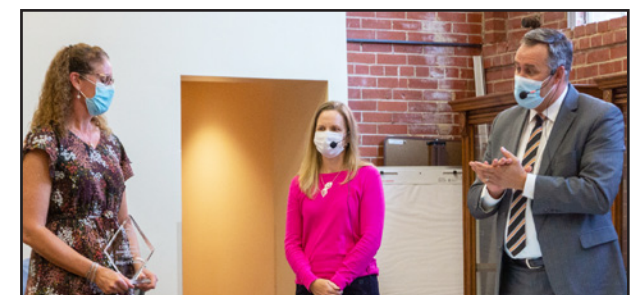
### Recognitions

The board recognized former Chief Information Officer Julie Stephen for her many years of service to the district.

Former band director Michael Mazingo was recognized for his induction into the Colorado Bandmasters Association Hall of Fame. One individual per year is so honored. Many of his former students and family were at the meeting to applaud him.



**Above:** Former band director Michael Mazingo was recognized for his induction into the Colorado Bandmasters Association Hall of Fame. From left are Mazingo (aka Mr. Mo), board member Theresa Phillips, and Superintendent KC Somers. **Below:** Lewis-Palmer High School Principal Bridget O'Connor (on the left) was recognized for being named a Rookie Secondary Principal of the Year by the Colorado Association of School Executives. Photos by Jackie Burhans.



## Fuel Church Pastor Dan Crosby

1965-2021



this." *II Timothy 4:7* states "I have fought the good fight. I have finished the race. I have kept the faith." This truly describes Pastor Dan Crosby.

There was a powerful Celebration of Life Service on Saturday, August 14. Over 400 people attended in person and hundreds more joined online. Pastor Dan is known for his love and compassion for people, his passion for life, and for the great impact he made in his missions travels to 30 nations around the world. Pastor Dan had also recently become a Financial Advisor with Edward Jones working alongside Frank Wynn, Kim Hartlaub, and Debbie Galle, all of whom he deeply cared for.

Pastor Dan is survived by his wife Maria, son Seth, and daughter Alyzsa as well as his mother Mary Ellen, brother Randall, and sister Pamela. He was an amazing son, brother, husband, father, and pastor. His family, church family, the community, and his partners around the world miss him immensely and have a hard time imagining life without him. Pastor Dan was passionate about sharing his faith in Jesus. One of the verses that he often talked about was *John 14:6*, "Jesus answered, 'I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me.'"

### His legacy lives on.

If you missed the Celebration of Life Service, you can watch the recording at [fuelchurch.org](http://fuelchurch.org) and click on "media."

The Crosby Family and Fuel Church would like to thank every person, church, and organization who has lifted them up in prayer and showered them with acts of kindness. Pastor Dan was in and out of the hospital from June 22 until August 2 and transitioned into eternity on August 2 at age 56.

On Sunday, June 13, Pastor Dan was doing what he loved, preaching overseas. On June 22, he was admitted to the hospital in Colorado Springs from an acute illness that left the doctors baffled. While in the hospital, Dan loved on the nurses and doctors that cared for him. He especially enjoyed talking with the international doctors and nurses and shared stories about his missions trips overseas with them. Throughout Pastor Dan's hospitalization, he continued to say "God's got