

the school and introduce them to Every Day Math curriculum. Wilson commented that as federal and state budgets continue to be cut, the district is on the verge of losing Title 1 funding.

Lewis-Palmer High School improvement plan
Lewis-Palmer High School (LPHS) Principal Sandi Brandl said that the school's academic achievement exceeds requirements in all categories, scoring in the

90th percentile. The school also exceeds requirements in workforce and post-secondary categories.

The school meets academic growth requirements and is approaching requirements in growth gaps.

The ELLs do not meet requirements in writing.

- Targets for improvement are:
- Reading for students with disabilities
 - Math for disadvantaged, minority, individual education plan students, and free/reduced-cost lunch students
 - Writing for those with disabilities and ELL students

Action plans include:

- Restructure support in English and math using alternative school and learning centers
- Increase number of para and special education teachers and consider adding additional intervention during study halls
- Offer Write Tool training for special ed teachers, Option 38 teachers, and ELL teachers

Lewis-Palmer Middle School improvement plan

Principal Caryn Collette explained the improvement plan for Lewis-Palmer Middle School. The school meets all requirements for growth and growth gaps and exceeds requirements for overall academic achievement, earning it the status of a John Irwin School of Excellence in the 2010-11 school year.

Special education students did not meet the adequate yearly progress in math and reading.

Causes of the shortfall include loss of reading and math intervention and the growing size of case loads for special education teachers.

Action plans include:

- Develop individual improvement plans for students
- There is a half-hour at the end of each day that can be used for study hall or additional instruction
- Work on vertical alignment of curriculum
- A literacy committee was formed to assist writing across the curriculum last year. It taught students to pre-write, edit, and do final drafts of papers.
- This year the school is working on reading across the curriculum and coming up with strategies to embed it in lesson plans.

Committee for Political Achievement

Committee for Political Achievement Chair Cori Tanner reported that DAAC is collaborating with the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA) to inform the public about the Healthy and Drug-Free Colorado ballot measure. The measure proposes to legalize marijuana in Colorado, with a legal age of 18. This issue is separate from the legalization of marijuana for medical use.

It would still be illegal to possess or be under the influence of marijuana on school property.

Tanner said that an informational meeting on the issue would be held the following week at LPHS.

The District Accountability Advisory Committee meets at 7 p.m. on the second Tuesday of each month. Locations vary. The next meeting will be held on April 10 in the district's Learning Center, 146 Jefferson St., Monument.

Harriet Halbig can be reached at harriethalbig@ocn.me.

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Special Education Advisory Council, March 14

Transition program assists older students

By Harriet Halbig
Bobbie Weber and Jody Minarik, coordinators of District 38's transition program, Discover, offered a presentation on their program at the March 14 meeting of the

Special Education Advisory Council. The transition program serves district students ages 18 to 21, with an active individual education plan (IEP). The program is housed in part of the Grace Best building near the district administration building.

Participants in the program receive training in life skills that could lead to eventual independent living. They may participate in the program until the end of the semester in which their 21st birthday falls.

Some students take the Accuplacer test and qualify to attend community college to learn career-related skills such as welding, culinary arts, auto mechan-



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