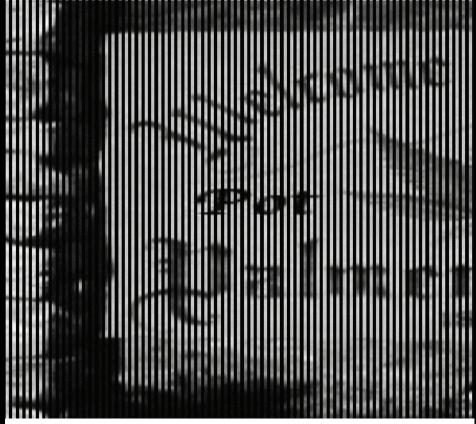




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dren.

Board President Mark Pfoff said that the state has decided to have a policy on this subject and left it to the districts to decide how to do it right. He assured the board that the policy could be changed later if necessary and shared Clawson's concern about lack of research.

Vice President Sherri Hawkins, Treasurer John Magerko, and Sampayo agreed that having a policy will direct the administration of the product and Sampayo said that she understood that if having such a policy would interfere with federal funding, the state would fill the gap.

The policy was passed on a vote of 4 to 1, with Clawson opposing.

# Bus purchases approved

Transportation Fleet Manager Chuck Kruger joined Wangeman in presenting a proposal for the purchase for three new buses for the district.

Wangeman assured the board that this is not a change to the budget, but the board must approve the action when it is taken. The funds would come from the capital budget approved in June and include one special needs bus, which could accommodate up to three wheelchairs and 30 passengers, and two regular buses. She said that the cost would be slightly below what was previously estimated, at \$300,000.

Kruger said that although the district has excellent mechanics, parts for buses that are over 10 years old are difficult to find. Many district buses are over 20 years old. The new buses will be Freightliners and have new safety features, all including cameras, self-applied snow chains and GPS so that district administration can know where each bus is at a given time. The lights are also better, as is visibility.

The board approved the purchase of three new buses.

## **Technology update**

Director of Institutional and Informational Technology Elizabeth Walhof and teachers Devon Johnson of Prairie Winds Elementary and Mary Gregory of Lewis-Palmer High School reported on activities over the summer in the area of technology in the schools.

A Teacher Technological Proficiency Matrix was developed to include digital proficiency, operations skills, teaching and learning techniques, and professional growth. The matrix would allow teachers to see where they are and how to use technology to teach 21st century skills such as communication, collaboration, creativity, critical thinking, and character.

The goal is to know what all teachers are using and what works in the classroom. "Do we have what we need?" Walhof asked

Data from a survey earlier this year showed that 41 percent of students think they have technology skills necessary for college. Thirty-two percent feel that school gives them the skills needed in the workforce. Although these numbers are improving, they are in need of more improvement.

Walhof said that the matrix will serve as a framework for teachers to use as a tool for growth and a way to view technology as part of the curriculum and skill set at all grade levels.

Walhof said that specific tools are not mentioned in the matrix because the tools change and develop at a rapid rate.

Brofft commented that the matrix involves not values but skills that would give students what they need to compete in college and the workforce.

### **Budgetary requests**

Wangeman requested the carryover of funds from last school year to this in order to complete projects begun before June 30 and not yet complete and to allow two elementary schools to purchase Smart Labs.

She also said that we are seeing a change of demographics in schools, including increased enrollment of those needing special services, which may require the hiring of more paraprofessionals.

The board approved the carryovers.

#### Recognitions

The board recognized Howard Eggers for his years of work in the preschool program and offering legal advice.

The board also recognized Spencer Griffith and Katherine Steele of DePuy Synthes for their company's contributions to the district, including improvements to the visitor side of the stadium.

## **Citizen comments**

Bear Creek Elementary teacher Erica Ensign told the board of her school's plans to hold an appreciation assembly for fire-fighters the following week. See photo on page 1.

Derek Araje commented that the board is ignoring open records laws by not making all board packets available to the public at the same time as the board. He said that the number of Colorado Open Records Act requests reflects their lack of transparency.

Palmer Lake Elementary School teacher Megan Smallman expressed how

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