

of strength, especially through schedule changes allowing them to participate in extra activities.

Each student is issued an Individualized Career and Academic Plan upon identification. Once identified as gifted, that identification remains in effect throughout the student's time in the district. Parents may decline to receive services, but if they do receive services, assessments and monitoring are mandatory.

Campus introduction

Lewis-Palmer Middle School Principal Seann O'Connor gave a brief introduction to his school, its students and activities.

The present building, completed in 1994, has been the district's only middle school since 2010 when it was combined

with Creekside Middle School.

Now serving 811 students, the school offers several sports in six-week sessions and has many afternoon enrichment offerings including underwater robotics, Lego robotics, Student Council, WEB (sponsored by Kiwanis, similar to Key Club for high school) and free YMCA memberships for seventh-graders, who travel to the facility by bus after school.

The school's motto is PRIDE, standing for persistence, responsibility, initiative, dependability and empathy.

The District Accountability Advisory Committee meets on the second Tuesday of the month. Locations vary. The next meeting will be on April 12 in the district's

Monument Academy School Board, Feb. 11

MA board sets policy for holding students back; PTO asks for matching funds for field

By Jackie Burhans

The Monument Academy (MA) school board met with Principal Lis Richard and Executive Director Don Griffin to discuss a policy on student retention, Green4Green fundraiser fund matching, and charter renewal among other topics.

Background

Monument Academy (MA) is a charter school founded in 1996 in the Lewis-Palmer School District (LPSD). MA is governed by a six-member board that is elected by the parents of MA students and staff. MA is a publicly funded, tuition-free school with its own budget and financing mechanisms. It is in the process of renegotiating its five-year charter contract with LPSD.

Student Retention Policy

Principal Richard led the discussion of Student Retention Policy 1527, which covers when students are held back a grade.

The goal is to spell out exactly how retention is handled, who is involved, what kind of measures are used, and what options parents have during the process.

The focus is on mastery of reading, writing, and math as determined by various measures including state, national, and standardized assessments, grades, observations, etc. MA is adopting a written policy outlining the process for a parent or guardian to exercise their choice concerning their child's enrollment when student retention has been determined.

The student must have been on a documented plan of intervention and parents should be notified by the end of the third quarter if their child will be held back. If the parent agrees with the recommendation, they sign a form. If not, they must put together an academic plan for the summer months in conjunction with the principal. Parents must pay for the summer program,

Learning Center, 146 Jefferson St. There will be no meeting in March.

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

Southern Colorado's Leader for Custom Cabinetry Design

Brooks Brothers Cabinetry, Inc.

The Top Kitchen Designers in Southern Colorado Right Here in Monument!



2015 Parade of Homes 'People's Choice' Award Winner

- Residential
 - Commercial
 - Kitchens
 - Bathrooms
 - Home Theater
 - Home Office
 - Closets
 - Garages
 - Laundry
 - Mantels
- ... and more!

Showroom Location

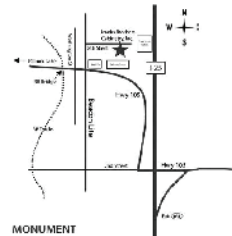
530 E. 8th Street, Monument, CO 80132

(Behind Safeway)

Come See Us Today!

719-481-8222

www.BrooksBrothersCabinetry.com



"Expect Excellence"



Say hello to your new financial bodyguard.

Unbiased, independent advice.

Being an independent financial advisor means that we are not bound by corporate mandates to push specific investment products, or fitting our clients within a predetermined investment strategy. Lang Investment Services develops custom financial solutions for each of our clients, with an unwavering dedication to helping you define and protect your long-term investment objectives.



Begin securing your financial future today. Call Matthew Lang at (719) 481-0887.

Strategic Asset Management • Tax Advantaged Investing • Retirement Planning Insurance • Investment Guidance • Consulting

236 North Washington St., Monument, CO 80132 • langinvestmentservices.com

Securities and advisory services offered through Commonwealth Financial Network, Member FINRA/SIPC, a Registered Investment Adviser. Fixed insurance products and services offered through CES Insurance Agency.



Professional Deck Restoration

We repair and improve all aspects of decks. Since 1999. Free Estimates.

CALL TODAY!

BORDERS

Deck Care & Maintenance

719-578-8900

www.Bordersdeckcare.com or bordersdeck@hotmail.com