ate sub-committees to address these
tails. The co-chairs agreed to send an email
to the membership seeking volunteers to
serve on the sub-committees.

D-38 Superintendent Karen Brofft
commented that, since the committee also
exists under a state charter, it was not criti-
cal for the board to vote on the charge at its
Oct. 20 meeting.

Teacher evaluation discussion
Director of Personal and Student Services
Bob Foster updated the committee on the
application of Senate Bill 191 and its im-
pact on teacher evaluation.

Foster said that all teachers are now
evaluated annually and that student growth
is still 50 percent of a teacher’s score. He
explained the evaluation process as con-
tinuing through orientation at the begin-
ning of the year, followed by self-assess-
ment by the teachers, a review of goals,
observation, midyear review, and final as-
sessment.

Foster reminded the committee that
many employees could not be evaluated
on the basis of state tests. These include
media specialists, instructional coaches,
teachers on special assignment, and teach-
ers in such fields as art, music, world lan-
guage, and physical education and special
education specialists. Assessment stan-
dards for some of these individuals have
been developed by the staff.

Among the developments expected
this year are a new data management sys-
tem.

Board of Education
liaison report
Board Liaison John Magerko said that the
district Board of Education is continuing
to send representatives to various district
committees, including DAAC and the Spe-
cial Education Advisory Council. Board
representatives also are participating in
long-term planning meetings with the
Town of Monument.

Magerko urged all members to read
their state blue book and vote in the No-
Vember election.

Superintendent update
Brofft reported that it is critical to maintain
focus on the welfare of the kids in the dis-

tric. This goal is served by ensuring post-
secondary preparedness whether in college
or in the workforce. This is supported by
offering a gifted/talented program, re-

duption to intervention (RtI) for those who
need extra help, the Transitions program
for those who need support through age
21, the Area Vocational Program, concur-
rent enrollment enabling college credit
during high school, the Homeschool En-
richment Academy, and Options 38. Also,
the arts have been added to the STEM (sci-
ence, technology, engineering and math)
program because creativity is an important
aspect of 21st-century learning.

Brofft reported that the long-term
planning process is important because the
area is growing and district facilities are
aging. There must be constant monitoring
of the efficient use of facilities and demo-
graphics of the district.

Safety and security in the district is a
continuing subject of study, and Brofft re-
ported that D38 is one of a few districts
that does not have a director of security
with the specialized knowledge to monitor
the issue. The job has been posted.

Brofft also touched on funding and the
fact that the district is funded at 12.1 per-
cent lower than state law requires. Adjoin-
ing states have a higher per pupil funding
rate than Colorado, and this could make
our students less competitive on the mar-
ket.

This lack of funding makes partners-
hips with such organizations as Kiwanis
and the Tri-Lakes Women’s Club critical,
as well as seeking grants from other enti-
ties.

The District Accountability Advisory
Committee meets five times a year at vari-
ous locations. The next meeting will be
at 7 p.m. Jan. 10 at Monument Academy,
1150 Village Ridge Point, Monument.

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

Monument Academy School Board, Oct. 13

Mis coded tests corrected; salaries increased

By Jackie Burhans

The Monument Academy (MA) School
Board met on Oct. 13 to hear about rev-

tue adjustments and corrections to
PARCC tests and to approve salary in-
creases. Board members Julie Galusky and
Andy Gifford were absent.

Treasurer reports one-time income adjustment

Treasurer Patrick Hall said that the treasury
report was the best seen in some time with
a deposit of nearly $80,000 as a result of
the reconciliation of District 38 purchased
services for the last fiscal year, a per pupil
revenue (PPR) catch-up amount of about
$50,000 for July and August, and a $5,500
credit for Exceptional Student Services
purchased services. The total income for
September was about $163,000, of which
$144,797 was a one-time adjustment due
to the contract negotiation.

Mis coded tests corrected
Principal Lis Richard reported a corre-
tion to her report on the school’s low rank-
ing on PARCC testing. She corrected her
original statement that the state had the
lowered ranking due to low participation
in PARCC. Rather, the problem was that
15 tests had been miscoded by Monument
Academy. She noted that the district has
been very gracious in working with MA in
filling with the state to give an explaina-
tion and correct the errors. The corrections
will not show in the system until January,
which may have an impact during open
enrollment. Achievement and performance
remain high, Richard noted, and this is just
a clerical error. This does not affect the ac-
creditation with distinction ranking.

Salary “true-up” approved

The board unanimously approved a ho-
motion for salary increases of $207,734 for
staff, with those adjustments to be includ-
ed in the November 2016 paychecks. This
amount includes payments for Medicare
and the Public Employees’ Retirement As-

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