A - Doug Levinson
B - Paul Pitton
C - John Williams
D - Tom Parrish
E - Amy Davis

Board of Education
Mesa County Valley School District 51
Business Meeting Minutes: September 17, 2019
Adopted: October 15, 2019

	A	B	C	D	E	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
						<u>BUSINESS MEETING</u>	6:02 p.m.
Present	x	x	x	x	x	A. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE ➢ Mr. Parrish welcomed attendees to the September Business Meeting and gave instructions for meeting participants to address the Board, *under Item G, Audience Comments*.	
Absent							
Motion		x				B. AGENDA APPROVAL	Adopted
Second	x						
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
Motion		x				C. MEETING MINUTES AND SUMMARY APPROVAL	Adopted
Second			x			C-1. August 6, 2019 Board Work Session Minutes	
Aye	x	x	x		x	C-2. August 20, 2019 Board Business Meeting Minutes	
No							
Abstained				x		➢ Mr. Parrish abstained from voting because he was not present for the Business Meeting.	
						D. RECOGNITIONS D.1. Recognition for Government Finance Officers' Association Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting, Mrs. Vi Crawford, Ms. Melanie Heath, Ms. Ashley Zhang and Mr. Samuel Pugh [Resolution 19/20: 14]	
						➢ Mr. Williams noted this would be the twenty-first year the finance department has received the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association. The award exemplifies outstanding financial management in ensuring the taxpayer's dollars are maximized for the benefit of our students. Ms. Melanie Heath, assistant finance director and Mr. Samuel Pugh, accountant, were present to accept the award. Mrs. Vi Crawford, finance director, and Mrs. Ashley Zhang, accountant were unable to attend the meeting.	
						➢ Superintendent Sirko and the Board thanked the finance department for their excellent work and transparency in the handling the District's finances.	
						D.2. Recognition for "Safety Buckets", Ryan Davis, Fruita Monument High School [Resolution 19/20: 18]	
						➢ Mr. Levinson invited Ryan Davis to the front of the room and thanked him for bringing a Safety Bucket to display. Ryan, a Fruita Monument High School student, pitched the idea of the Safety Buckets for his Eagle Scout project last year, while attending Fruita 8/9 School. Ryan was responsible for all the fundraising, planning, designing and organizing of the project. Because of his efforts, classrooms at Fruita 8/9 School are now equipped with a Safety Bucket which contains water, medical supplies, sanitary supplies and can be used for emergency needs during a lock down. The original idea came from Ryan's older brother who did a similar project for his Eagle Scout project.	
						➢ Superintendent Sirko and the Board congratulated Ryan on his hard work and commitment to the project.	

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Board of Education
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A	B	C	D	E	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION

D.3. Recognition for YEA National Saunders Scholar Competition Representative, Anatoly Chinn, Fruita 8/9 School [Resolution 19/20: 19]

- Mr. Pitton requested Toly Chinn step to the front of the room. Toly, a Fruita 8/9 School student, participated in the Young Entrepreneurs Academy (YEA) this spring. During the program students put together a business plan, pitch the plan to a panel of investors and obtain start-up funding. The students then unveil their plans at a business trade show. Toly's business is Colorado Bike Armor. Colorado Bike Armor supplies protective frame wraps to protect bicycles from damage during transport and storage. Toly was chosen to represent the YEA Program at the 2019 Saunders School in Rochester, New York. Toly was awarded the People's Choice Award in his division. Toly currently markets his innovative product from his business website, Coloradobikearmor.com, but will soon be working with local bike shops.
- Superintendent Sirko and the Board congratulated Toly on his outstanding accomplishments with his ingenious business and wished him the best with this and other inventions.

E. BOARD REPORTS/COMMUNICATIONS/REQUESTS

- Mr. Parrish mentioned the groundbreaking ceremony for the new Fruita elementary school, held earlier in the day. The new school should be ready for students by the fall of 2020.
- Mr. Levinson commented on the amount of work which has been completed at Fruita Monument High School. The balance of the work is scheduled to be finished by January 2020.
- Mr. Pitton shared he has been randomly visiting several schools and speaking with administration, office staff, custodial staff and students to get feedback on the later start times and curriculum changes.
- Mr. Williams shared Grand Junction High School was having an open house today and will have another one in October. The open houses are being held to give the general public the opportunity to view the building. He noted the bond campaign committee is working hard. The committee had a slight snag in the numbering of the ballot issue. The ballot issue will be 4A instead of 3A as initially advertised.

F. LEGISLATIVE REPORT

- None at this time.

G. AUDIENCE COMMENTS

- None at this time.

H. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

- Superintendent Sirko thanked the Board for taking the time to visit all the schools to allow staff an opportunity to get questions answered and/or share concerns.

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Board of Education
Mesa County Valley School District 51
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A	B	C	D	E	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION

H-1. Student Led "Get Out To Vote", Ms. Jeriel Clark and Students

- Ms. Jeriel Clark, Western Colorado Alliance Community Organizer, expressed her enjoyment in working with students from across the western slope involved in West Slope Youth Vote. West Slope Youth Vote is a co-organization of Western Colorado Alliance, a non-profit organization.
- Two Palisade High School students, August Pomrenke and Anna Respet and Fruita Monument High School student, Izabelle Brophy, presented information about West Slope Youth Vote. West Slope Youth Vote is comprised of students from ten high schools across four counties. Their goal is to harness the power of student voices and increase participation in the decision making process. Last year the group concentrated on getting all students over the age of sixteen registered to vote. Last year Senate Bill 19-235 passed which will automatically register Colorado residence to vote when they sign up for a driver's license starting in 2020. This year the group is working to get non-partisan information to students about current issues and to make everyone aware their vote does count. Over the summer the group participated in the 4th of July parade to share the message of "add voting to your bucket list", hosted a kickoff event to train over a dozen interns, developed a plan for sharing their message to other students including filming an opening video and publishing the Western Youth Issues Report. They handed out a copy of the report to the Board. The report has two primary purposes, connect students to issues important to them and to bring conversation to our legislators. Students from the West Slope Youth Vote will travel to Denver again this year to meet with legislators and speak about issues important to students such as higher education, family issues and economics.
- Ms. Clark and the students requested assistance from the Board to gain cooperation from administrators and teachers to allow time to share their message. They have been able to work with some social studies teachers and have been holding meetings and using social media to share their message. They would like the opportunity to share their message with all students.
- The Board and Superintendent Sirko thanked Ms. Clark and the students for presenting and complimented them on the quality of work in the video presented and the Western Youth Issues Report.

H-2. Update on School Health Clinic

- Superintendent Sirko reported the committee has applied for, and is strongly in line, to receive a grant in the amount of $300,000. If granted $200,000. would be used for capital expenses and $100,000. for start-up operational expenses. The clinic could be built with little disruption to the school and possibly open as early as March.

H-3. Bond Report

- Reviewed

H-4. Communication/District Initiatives

- Reviewed

A - Doug Levinson
B - Paul Pitton
C - John Williams
D - Tom Parrish
E - Amy Davis

Board of Education
Mesa County Valley School District 51
Business Meeting Minutes: September 17, 2019
Adopted: October 15, 2019

	A	B	C	D	E	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
						H-5. Discussion Regarding The Name For The New Fruita Elementary School ➢ Ms. Emma-Leigh Larson, principal for the new Fruita elementary school, Mrs. Emily Shockley, Public Information Officer and Mrs. Catherine Foster-Gruber, Communication Specialist, reviewed the process used to name the new elementary school in Fruita. The process began with a public survey, poster boards placed at various events and Facebook postings to request suggested names. Criteria was no proper names, no names currently being used by other schools and no names containing offensive language. Of the 1,716 names submitted 455 were usable since many of the submission were duplicates and some did not meet the criteria. The 455 names were submitted to a committee comprised of parents, staff and community members with the committee selecting ten finalists. The ten finalist names were then sent out, through a survey, asking people to vote for their top three choices. A graph displaying the top ten names and the results of the 2,579 survey responses showed the most popular three names to be Monument Ridge, Fossil Ridge and Canyon Ridge, respectively. ➢ The Board questioned the need to select from the top ten or from the three names receiving the highest number of votes. Discussion took place regarding the thoroughness of the process, the community involvement and respecting the popular vote. Motion to accept the survey results for naming the new elementary school in Fruita.	
Motion		x					Adopted
Second					x		
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
Motion		x				➢ Motion to adopt the resolution read by Mr. Parrish, naming Monument Ridge as the name for the new elementary school in Fruita.	Adopted
Second					x		
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							
Motion		x				I. CONSENT AGENDA	Adopted
Second			x			I-1. Personnel Actions [Resolution: 19/20: 15]	
Aye	x	x	x	x	x	I-2. Gifts [Resolution: 19/20: 17]	
No						I-3. Pitney Bowes Contract [Resolution 19/20: 16]	
						J. BUSINESS ITEMS J-1. None at this time	
						K. BOARD OPEN DISCUSSION ➢ Board reviewed possible dates to hold a Board Retreat. The Board Retreat will be held on October 9, 2019, at 4:00 p.m. with a location to be determined. ➢ Mr. Williams reviewed the process in 2017 when deciding to go with premium bonds. Discussion took place regarding premium bonds, how the decision was made in 2017, how the market dictates direction and the need for a presentation around premium bonds.	
						L. FUTURE MEETINGS ➢ Reviewed.	
						M. EXECUTIVE SESSION ➢ None at this time.	

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Board of Education
Mesa County Valley School District 51
Business Meeting Minutes: September 17, 2019
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	A	B	C	D	E	AGENDA ITEMS	ACTION
Motion					x	N. ADJOURNMENT	7:45 p.m.
Second	x						
Aye	x	x	x	x	x		
No							

Bridget Story, Assistant Secretary
Board of Education

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Engage, Equip, and Empower

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Recognition: *Excellence in Financial Reporting*
Government Finance Officers Association,
Vi Crawford, Melanie Heath, Ashley Zhang, Samuel Pugh

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 14 Presented: September 17, 2019

The Board would like to invite Vi Crawford, Melanie Heath, Ashley Zhang and Sam Pugh to the front.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Sirko would like to recognize the district's Finance Department for being awarded the Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting by the Government Finance Officers Association for the 21st consecutive year. Vi Crawford, Melanie Heath, Ashley Zhang, and Samuel Pugh were given this highest form of recognition in governmental accounting and financial reporting for their work on District 51's comprehensive annual financial report.

The Association's Award for Excellence in Government Finance recognizes contributions to the practice of government finance that exemplify outstanding financial management. Its attainment represents a significant accomplishment, and we are honored to recognize this department for this accomplishment.

This award confirms that District 51 continues to exemplify excellence in ensuring our taxpayer's dollars are maximized for the benefit of our students. The district's financial annual report has been judged by an impartial panel to meet the high standards of the association's program including demonstrating a constructive "spirit of full disclosure" to clearly communicate the financial story of School District 51.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Sirko are proud to recognize Ms. Crawford, Ms. Heath, Ms. Zhang, and Mr. Pugh for modelling excellence in all that you do. Congratulations.

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Engage, Equip, and Empower

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Recognition: Ryan Davis
"Safety Buckets" Eagles Scout Project

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 18 Presented: September 17, 2019

The Board would like to invite Ryan Davis to the front.

Earlier this year, Fruita Monument High School student Ryan Davis pitched a unique idea for his Eagle Scout project. After experiencing lockdown drills at school, Ryan had the idea for outfitting classrooms with Safety Buckets. These buckets are used when students are unable to leave classrooms, and are equipped with food items, first aid supplies, and can be used for other emergency needs.

Students completing Eagle Scout projects are responsible for all the fundraising, planning, designing, and organizing of the project. Ryan completed this project while at Fruita 8/9, and now classrooms at the school are equipped with these buckets.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Sirko are proud to recognize Ryan for his hard work, enthusiasm, and commitment to this project, and for recognizing a need and taking actionable steps to address it. Thank you, and congratulations.

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Recognition: Anatoly Chinn
Young Entrepreneurs Academy

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 19 Presented: September 17, 2019

The Board would like to invite Toly Chinn to the front.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Sirko are excited to recognize Toly, a student at Fruita 8/9, for his participation in the Young Entrepreneurs Academy this spring. The Young Entrepreneurs Academy is an afterschool program for students between the ages of eleven and eighteen to launch their own business. During the course of the program, students put together a business plan, pitch the plan to a panel of investors, obtain start-up funding, and then unveil the business at a trade show.

Toly's business is Colorado Bike Armor, which supplies protective frame wraps to prevent damage during transport and storage. Colorado Bike Armor was chosen as the 2019 Saunders School for the Grand Junction Chamber of Commerce YEA Program, and Toly was able to travel to Rochester, NY to compete with over 70 student businesses from across the country. At the competition, Toly won the People's Choice Award for his division, beating out twelve other students.

Since Rochester, Toly has returned to the Grand Valley and is already making arrangements with local bike shops to sell his innovative project.

The Board of Education and Superintendent Sirko are proud of everything Toly has accomplished with his ingenious business idea, and are proud to recognize him for all his hard work. Congratulations!

Communications Update
August 15 – September 12, 2019

Includes

Earned Media Coverage

Paid Media Coverage

Electronic Direct Communication

Social Media Reports

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Engage, Equip, and Empower

Media Coverage

The Daily Sentinel

Aug 16, Tests show student growth in District 51

Aug 16, A question of oversight (Editorial)

Aug 19, Grand Valley to be focus of project on suicide prevention

Aug 21, Study: soil won't be an issue at new school

Aug 23, Multiple choice of monikers

Aug 26, Local schools get potatoes, pork, beans for free

Aug 28, Apprentice finds her calling

Aug 28, School performance improves year over year

Aug 28, Selling bond measure is about the big picture

Aug 29, Armed and ready

Aug 30, 2 on school board run unopposed

Sept 1, Opinion: Another can kicked down the road

Sept 4, A vote of confidence?

Sept 8, Residents nearly split on school bond issue

Sept 12, Students give thanks to first responders on 9/11

Sept 12, Name change for bond measure

KREX

Aug 17, R-5 High School aquaponics and garden program inspires students

Aug 21, 700+ names narrowed to 10 for new Fruita elementary school

Aug 22, After school safety steps

Aug 23, Fruita elementary preschool

Aug 31, Teen vaping is on the rise in Colorado

Sept 4, New D51 bond measure will be on the ballot this November

Aug 14, First day of full-day kindergarten for District 51

Aug 14, HS Football: Fruita's youth movement ready to step up

Aug 15, CMAS test scores show improvement in D51 classrooms

Aug 15, Orchard Mesa Middle School continues construction

Aug 16, Local high schools to participate in well-being study

Aug 16, New school pick-up system stirs controversy

Aug 19, Large mosquito population at Loma Elementary

Aug 21, 12 year old girl escapes kidnap under Grand Ave bridge

Aug 21, Soil tests evaluate the foundation of Grand Junction High School

Aug 21, CMU 20,000 Initiative helps D51 students

Aug 27, School bus involved in minor crash

Aug 28, Lockdown vs. Shelter In Place

Sept 4, Crisis center closes

Sept 9, Local elementary school teacher is one of seven finalists for Colorado Teacher of the Year

Sept 11, Computer program gives students personalized learning

Paid Media

Indoor Billboards

The following ads appeared on indoor billboards owned by Local Focus at various places in the community, including Mesa Mall, Kidsplex, Glacier Ice Arena, Graff Dairy, Bananas Fun Park, etc.

Welcome Home Packages

Each month, 100 Homeowners who move into a new home in the Grand Valley receive a package that includes two branded stickers and pens, a printed infographic with more information about District 51.

TV Ads

KREX does a monthly segment highlighting a teacher who receives the KREX "Golden Apple Award." The channel advertises the award to bring awareness to D51, and to garner nominations. KJCT provides audience targeting to supply relevant information to demographics who may benefit from our information as they browse the web.

Mesa Mall

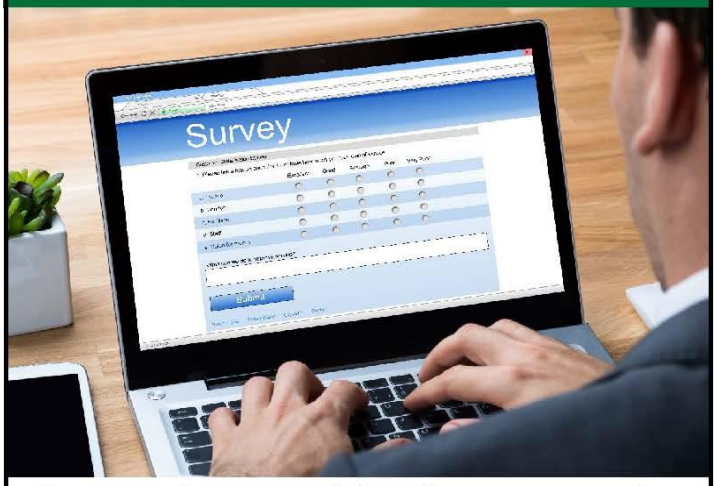
The directory just outside of Target has information about Explore D51, a free community class where participants can learn more about District 51.

GJ Daily Sentinel Ads

Ads with pertinent information run in the Sunday edition of the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel

Did You Know?

Fruita is getting a new elementary school!



Do you have an idea for a name for the new elementary school at K 4/10 Road and 18 ½ Road in Fruita?

Take the naming survey Aug. 5-19 at
https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/fruitaschoolsurvey

- Survey closes at 4 p.m. Aug. 19
- School will have a trail and outdoors theme
- Names of people will not be considered

For more information about all things District 51, visit www.d51schools.org.

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Engage, Equip, and Empower

Call for Nominations for School Directors

Mesa County Valley School District 51
Mesa County, Colorado

The Mesa County Valley School District 51 in the County of Mesa, State of Colorado, calls for nomination of candidates for school directors to be placed on the ballot for the regular biennial school election to be held on Tuesday, November 5, 2019.

At this election two directors will be elected, Director District A and Director District B. Board of Education members serve as community volunteers and serve for a term of four years. To be qualified, a candidate must have been a registered elector of the school district for at least 12 consecutive months before the election and a resident of the director district for which they will be representing. A person is ineligible to run for school director if he or she has been convicted of committing a sexual offense against a child.

A person who desires to be a candidate for school director shall file a written notice of intention to be a candidate and a nomination petition signed by at least fifty (50) eligible electors who are registered to vote in the regular biennial school election.

Nomination petitions may be obtained at the Office of the Superintendent of Schools, at 2115 Grand Avenue, Grand Junction, CO starting at 10:00 a.m. on Tuesday, August 7, 2019.

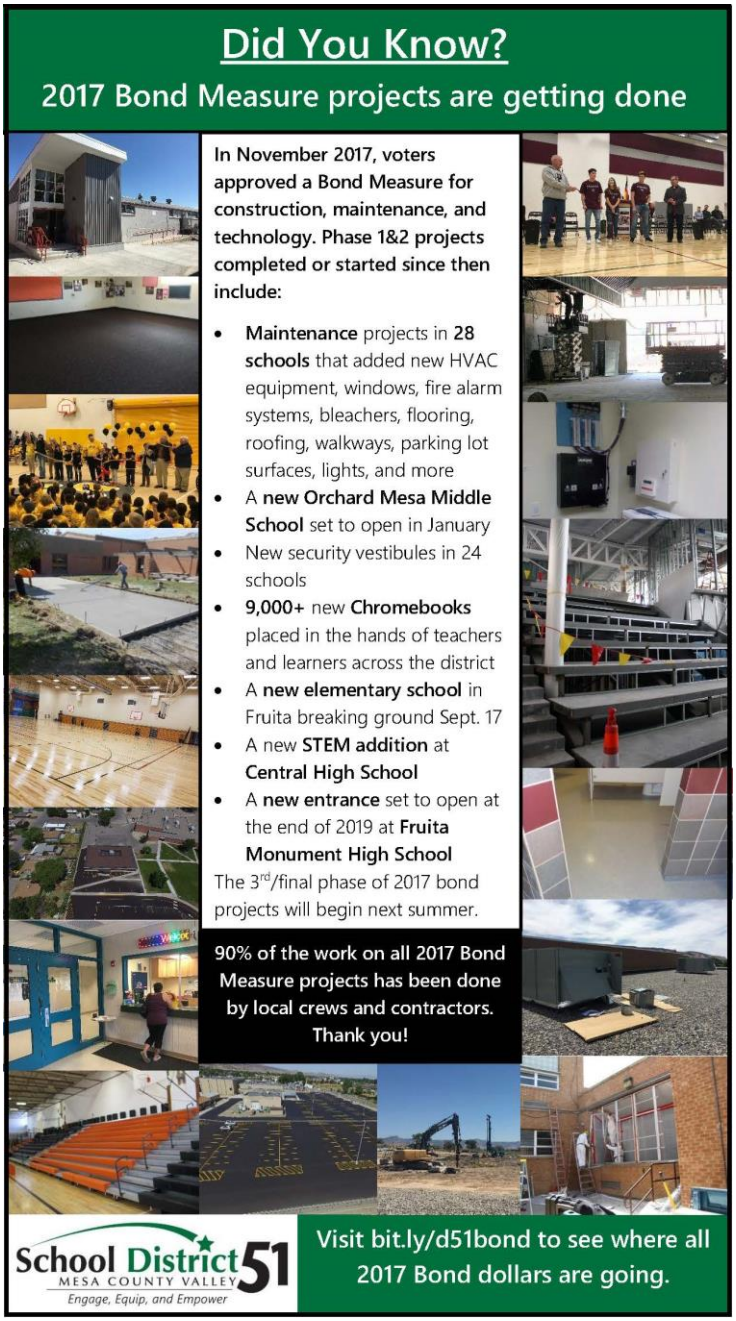
Completed petitions must be submitted to Office of the Superintendent of Schools no later than 4:00 p.m. on August 30, 2019.

Please contact Bridget Story, the school District's designated election official at 254-5139 for additional information. Maps for Director District A and B can be viewed at the Mesa County Valley School District website . To locate the maps, click on the "About Us" tab; "Board of Education"; "Members" and map links in the last sentence of the opening paragraph.

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Engage, Equip, and Empower

GJ Daily Sentinel Ads

Ads with pertinent information run in the Sunday edition of the Grand Junction Daily Sentinel



Media Coverage

Parent Newsletter

District 51 Post

School District 51 Family and Community Newsletter | August 2019

Welcome back!
The 2019-20 school year is in full swing! Shelledy Elementary, pictured above, had families and friends line up along the sidewalk to cheer on students with a Rock Star Welcome on the first day.

What would you name the new elementary school in Fruita?
More than 700 unique names suggested for the new elementary school in Fruita have been narrowed to 10 choices. Learn more about the naming process here and vote for your favorite names by clicking on the survey button below!

Fruita Naming Survey

2017 bond construction and maintenance update
Two dozen D51 schools benefited from maintenance projects this summer, and construction of the new Orchard Mesa Middle School is on track to wrap this December. See all of the projects done or started this summer here, and track all 2017 bond measure spending at bit.ly/d51bond.

Want to know how D51 works? Check out Explore 51!
Want to learn more about where your tax dollars go, how buildings are maintained, and what helps keep schools safe? Check out an Explore 51 class! They're free, monthly, and open to the public. See the 2019-20 schedule here.

New Emerson in the news
National School Choice Week is recognizing New Emerson in its Highlighting Happiness series! Learn more about the people at New Emerson here, and check out the student-led effort to create a "libratory" here.

FMHS scout builds GaGa pit
Fruita Monument student Brandon Miller raised funds for and built the Gaga pit shown above for students at Fruita Middle School as an Eagle Scout project. Learn the rules of Gaga Ball here.

Tope opens re-done playground
Tope Elementary School debuted a new look for the playground on the First Day of School. New features include wood chips instead of pebbles, climbing equipment, and (soon) a new track. The makeover began with a group of now-second-graders researching ways to make the playground less hot.

GJHS safety, building concerns
Learn more about building conditions at Grand Junction High School here.

Important Dates

Sept. 2 - Labor Day, no school.

Sept. 3 - School Board Work Session, 6 p.m., Harry Butler Board Room.

Sept. 16 - Educator Effectiveness Day, no school, all grades.

Sept. 17 - Elementary planning and middle school in-service, no school. High schools in session.

Sept. 17 - School Board Business Meeting, 6 p.m., Harry Butler Board Room.

W. Slope Abilities Conference
District 51 is one of the sponsors of the Western Slope Abilities Conference on Sept. 14. Learn more about this great event offering resources and information for people supporting family members or clients with disabilities or mental illness here.

D51F
SCHOOL DISTRICT 51
FOUNDATION

D51 Foundation Update
Connect with the D51 Foundation at www.d51foundation.org and on Facebook! The foundation is

CMAS: Students grow in almost all grades, subjects in 2019
Students in almost every testing grade and subject performed better on CMAS tests in 2019 than they did in 2018. Way to grow!

Scores improved both when comparing individual growth (for example, this year's fourth-graders compared to how they performed last year as third-graders) and comparing grade levels year-over-year (such as 2019 third-graders and 2018 third-graders). Learn more about CMAS growth here.

New year, new curriculum materials thanks to 2017 vote
The 2017 mill levy override, in part, is allowing D51 to update curriculum materials for the first time in years. See which subjects were updated this year here and where all 2017 bond and mill levy override dollars are going here.

Thank you for donating!
This was one of the best years yet for Stuff the Bus! Thank you for donating school supplies to benefit students in need. Thanks also go to the Rotary Club, for donating $16,000 in school supplies to help teachers stock classrooms.

GJHS foundation testing
The foundation at Grand Junction High is a big part of the structural issues at the 63-year-old school. To ensure these issues don't happen again, crews tested soil on the property this month. A new building would simply need pipes reaching 70-80 feet down to hard shale to stabilize the building - a common practice in modern, larger Grand Valley buildings.

students and professional learning for teachers. Consider leaving a legacy through our endowment or use our Donor Driven Donation, which gives you the opportunity to designate where you would like your donation to go.

Want to run for School Board?
Anyone interested in running for the Director District A or B seat on the D51 School Board this fall must turn in a petition with at least 50 valid signatures by 4 p.m. Aug. 30. Learn how you can run for School Board here.

Looking for a job? Apply at D51!
District 51 is hiring! Apply here for jobs in special education, food service, teaching, technology, school support, and more!

District 51: Mesa County's largest employer
All 3,251 District 51 staff members (that figure includes permanent staff as well as subs and coaches) were invited to share the excitement of a new school year at the All Staff Kickoff on Aug. 7 at Stocker Stadium. We are all happy to be a part of your child's life and make 2019-20 the best school year yet!

Communications Department
(970) 254-7912
communicate@d51schools.org

Staff Newsletter

District 51 Insider

School District 51 Staff Newsletter | August 2019

Communications Report

Every month, the Communcations Department puts together a brief snapshot of what we've been up to. Read the current report here.

- May 28 Board Brief
- June 4 Board Brief
- June 25 Board Brief
- July 1 Board Brief
- August 6 Board Brief
- August 20 Board Brief

New Emerson's new Library!

New Emerson Elementary was recently featured in an online publication highlighting school choice options and educational opportunities for students. Watch the video above and check out the articles here and here.

D51 High School

Click here to learn more about the building conditions and concerns of our high schools, including Grand Junction High School.

Fair Campaign Practices

On July 1, the Board of Education voted to pursue a bond measure in the November 2019 election. Both Board memebrs and individual District employees must comply fully with the **Fair Campaign Practices Act** with the upcoming campaign.

Click here to learn more about what employees can and cannot do.

2019-2020 Staff Calendars

Making plans for the school year? Find your calendar here.

Community Hospital

Community Hospital Newsletter

Check out Community Hospital's August newsletter, with important information for D51 Employees on the CHP Health Plan. Click here for the newsletter.

Help Us Out

Superintendent Update

Watch the video above for an update from Superintendent Diana Sirko

Check out an earlier update here and click here for a welcome back letter.

Happy School Year!

"Welcome back to a new school year in the Mesa County Valley School District! For those I haven't had the pleasure of meeting yet, my name is Brian Hill, and I am very excited to be your new Assistant Superintendent." Click here to read the rest of Dr. Brian Hill's welcome letter to staff.

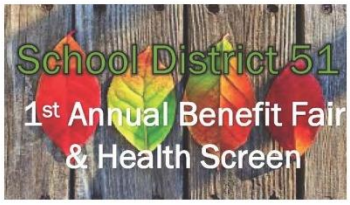
Staff Spotlight - Max Robinson

Max Robinson, a teacher at Redlands Middle School, ran the Leadville 100 for the second time on August 17. He beat last year's time by four hours and placed 15th overall, and 2nd in the 20-29 age group. Congratulations, Max!

TRIAD - Employee Assistance Program

Click here for information about TRIAD's August Webinar: Effective Budgeting

TRIAD is D51's Employee Assistance Program (EAP). Click here for more information about the EAP, resources, and contact information so you can find relief.



Employee Benefit Fair & Health Screen

Sign up for the annual health screen, taking place Sept 20-21 and Sept 28. Click here to learn more.

Wellness study comes to the Grand Valley

The Western Slope was selected as one of two Colorado locations to participate in a study about youth mental health and suicide prevention.

Click here to learn more about the study.

Welcome back to school!

Our 4th Round of Professional Learning Grants will close on August 31st. So far, we've donated over $29,000 to 46 D51 teachers for professional learning. Click here to apply.

The D51 Foundation would like to sincerely thank everyone who designated the D51 Foundation in their United Way donation. The funding priorities of the D51 Foundation are technology for students and professional learning for teachers. Please consider the D51 Foundation in the upcoming United Way fund drive this fall. We truly appreciate your support!

Do you know of any **Discounts for D51 employees?** *(gym memberships, technology, subscriptions, retail discounts, etc.)* Please send us an email so we can make information available to staff!

Click here to see what discount info we have so far!

Overwhelmed by all the **Acronyms and Jargon?** *(What's an IEP? Or PBL?)* Check out this list, and let us know if we're missing any!

Stay Connected

D51 News - Primary source for things happening in District 51.

Staff News - Exclusive information for D51 staff.

D51 Classifieds - A forum for D51 staff to search for or post items for sale.

D51 Communications - Help us get the word out about great things happening in D51!

TRIAD - Employee Assistance Program. - Get professional help with a variety of things including but not limited to financial or legal advice, mental illness support, relationship help, overcoming life challenges, etc.

Want more D51 news?

Click here to sign up for the monthly Community Newsletter to hear about MORE great things happening in District 51. Check out previous editions here.

Looking for a change?

Job openings are posted throughout the year as positions open up. If you are looking for a change, and have been in your current position for at least six months, be sure to check out our employment page.

Questions? Contact Sue Guadnola at ext. 11240

D51 Staff Concern Line

D51 employees can report concerns anonymously through the new D51 Staff Concern Line. Report concerns about things like workplace conditions, inequitable treatment, board policy violation, etc.

Click here for more information.

Text "YES" to 67587

To opt in to text notifications from District 51

SCHOOLMESSENGER®

Opt-In to receive text message notifications from District 51

School District 51 uses School Messenger to communicate with staff and families for a variety of things, from school events to school-related emergencies. If you would like to sign up to receive text updates from District 51 or your school, please follow the directions below, or download the flyer here. If you have already opted in to text messages, you will not need to do it again.

2017 Bond project update

A lot happened over the summer! Two dozen schools got major upgrades and updates, funded by the voter-approved bond, and Orchard Mesa Middle School is scheduled to open this winter. Learn more about summer projects here.

Buy a share from the R5 Garden!

The R-5 garden is ready to harvest. We have tomatoes, carrots, squash, varieties of chili peppers from mild to wild, beets, okra, turnips, onions, greens, and melons that are approaching readiness.

Shares are available for $150 for six pick up dates. Click here to learn more and to purchase a share and support our students!

We love our substitutes!

Over 200 District 51 substitutes attended an All Substitute Meeting/Training for a full day on July 25th at the Dual Immersion Academy. Substitutes received information on student safety, classroom management, classroom equipment, professional boundaries, mental health, Special Education classrooms, and many other topics to help our District 51 students.

Welcome back staff!!

We kicked off the school year with an all staff event at Stocker Stadium on August 7. Check out the video to the right for footage of the speakers.

Unfortunately, we couldn't film the speaker, Liz Jazwiec, but you can find out more about her and watch some of her videos on her website.

Rank your three favorite Fruita elementary names

After hundreds of submissions, the list of potential names for the new Fruita elementary school has been narrowed down to ten options. Rank your favorites here! The board will review the names and we hope to have a new name for the school by the groundbreaking event on September 17 at 4:30!

20th annual Stuff the Bus School Supply Drive

Over the summer, our partners at Townsquare Media and Mesa Mall organized the annual Stuff the Bus! Thanks to everyone who donated, this was our biggest year yet! Check out the video to see how we "Unstuffed" the Bus!

Did we miss something?

We want to hear from you! Staff are welcome to ask questions about the information you read or provide suggestions for future articles.

Submit your ideas/feedback/comments to Cat Foster

August 20 Board Briefs

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Engage, Equip, and Empower

BOARD BRIEFS

August 20, 2019, Board Business Meeting

Preliminary Soil Report for GJHS

Earlier this month, 10 test borings were done in various spots on the Grand Junction High School property to test soil quality and stability. Five of the borings went down 10-20 feet and found soft clay for the entire depth. The other five went down 74 feet. The deeper boring tests went through about 55 feet of soft clay, then a gravel layer that varied from about 5 feet to 15 feet thick, then hit hard shale at about 72 feet down. Lab testing of samples is in progress.

As expected, these results show that - as with many larger building projects in the valley - a deep foundation gaining stability from hard shale would be needed at a new Grand Junction High School. Most likely, construction crews would use concrete-filled steel pipe 70-80 feet long to reach the hard shale, and the pipes reaching hard shale would stabilize the structure gives support (think of the pipes as stilts on a boardwalk, reaching through unstable terrain to reach sturdier ground). The soft soils - both natural and placed by man - will require special construction techniques, including replacement and perhaps geotextile reinforcement under the building and paved areas.

Twenty-first century design and construction techniques make building a new Grand Junction High School on current property entirely feasible and practices like these are extremely common in constructing larger buildings in this area. A final report will be provided by the end of the month.

Fruita Elementary Update

Daniel Gartner from Chamberlin Architects showed board members how plans for the new elementary school in Fruita could accommodate preschool in a 1,500-square-foot classroom for 15-22 children for an estimated cost of $460,000 (including furnishings and security features). The preschool room would have its own entry door (which would be locked once the school day begins) and have access to the kindergarten playground. Board members approved a resolution to allocate up to $460,000 from currently unallocated bond funding to complete the preschool project.

Orchard Mesa Middle Construction Update

OMMS construction remains on schedule with 100-plus people working on the school each day. The school is set to be finished later this calendar year and should be ready to open for classes in January.

PTECH Update

Board members were briefed about the new Pathways in Technology Early College High School (PTECH) Program, which launched this school year at Central High School. The program allows Central students to earn a high school diploma and an associate's in welding, machining, or mechanical engineering technology in four to six years, all at no cost to the student. D51 also is applying to add a mechatronics (a combination of mechanical and electrics automation) associate's pathway.

In 2019-20, there are 34 PTECH students at Central. Twenty-eight of those students participated in PTECH camps this summer at Western Colorado Community College. The camp involved touring businesses and Colorado Mesa University and participating in days introducing students to the fields covered by PTECH.

Intergovernmental Agreement for Fall Election

Board members approved an intergovernmental agreement to include the school district on a Nov. 5, 2019, ballot. The agreement includes the district's biennial school board election on a ballot coordinated by the county clerk and recorder and shares the cost of the coordinated election with the county and any entities on the same ballot.

Board Recognitions

Board members recognized the following people for their accomplishments:

* **Andy Nikkari**, chairman of the District Accountability Committee, who is retiring from DAC.

* **Miranda Young**, who organizes the Special Olympics for D51.

* **Polly Burch**, D51 Textbook Technician, who coordinated the ordering and distribution of new curriculum materials purchased through the 2017 mill levy override.

* Fruita Monument student **Brandon Miller**, who raised funds for and built a Gaga Pit at Fruita Middle School as an Eagle Scout project.

Future Meetings

Sept. 3 - School Board Work Session, 6 p.m., Harry Butler Board Room.

Sept. 17 - School Board Business Meeting, 6 p.m., Harry Butler Board Room.

CHSAA Resolution

Board members recognized the service of the following D51 employees on CHSAA boards and councils: D51 Athletic Director Paul Cain (Technology, Handbook Committee and Legislative Council, President of the Southwestern League), Superintendent Diana Sirko (Classification, League Organization Committee), GJHS Athletic Director Carol Sams (Soccer, Legislative Council), PHS teacher Dave Carlo (Student Leadership), PHS Athletic Director Gregg Hawkins (Legislative Council, President of Western Slope League), GJHS Wrestling Coach Cole Allison (Wrestling).

Sept 3 Board Briefs

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Engage, Equip, and Empower

BOARD BRIEFS

September 3, 2019, Board Work Session

Student Achievement: CMAS, PSAT, SAT, School Performance Frameworks

Superintendent Diana Sirko discussed the recently released results of spring 2019 CMAS, PSAT, and SAT tests and the preliminary School Performance Framework ratings that come from test growth and performance (plus graduation rate and other factors for high schools). Dr. Sirko celebrated the fact that 26 D51 schools are now at the performance level (up from 20 last year), according to preliminary ratings, and that two schools (Mesa View Elementary and East Middle School) jumped two rating levels, from priority improvement in 2018 to performance in 2019. Dr. Sirko said that strong and effective leadership, highly trained staff, staff collaboration, strong culture and climate, an unwavering focus on students, and the willingness to do what it takes to succeed are all prominent features in the most effective schools.

Test performance is important, but test growth really tells the story of each student's learning. CMAS Growth Model data for District 51 this year shows more growth in almost every grade (six grade levels take CMAS), subject (math and English Language Arts), and subgroup (male/female, gifted/non, ELL/non, free/reduced lunch/not eligible, migrant/non, special education/non, minority/non-minority, and each race category) in 2019 than in 2018. There is no growth data for ninth-graders taking the PSAT9 test because there's no effective way to compare their growth from the eighth-grade CMAS test to the PSAT9. For the PSAT10, sophomores showed more growth going from the PSAT9 math to the PSAT10 math in 2019, and juniors taking the SAT in 2019 showed more growth than the previous year in both math and reading/writing.

Plans for continuing CMAS growth and performance include analyzing the data to find how certain schools made gains and why, having schools that need improvement work with the Turnaround Network, and encouraging social and emotional learning in all schools.

Summer School Report

Summer Extended Learning took place June 17 through July 19 (with the week of July 1-5 off) and served 620 consistent attendees in kindergarten through eighth-grade. The portion of students who attended summer learning every single day increased from 28% of students last year to 54% of this year's summer learners. Fifty-one percent of students in grades 4-8 grew their scores on the NWEA test after attending summer classes (compared to their performance on NWEA at the end of the school year), and 74% of students in grades K-3 had positive growth on two or more items on the DIBELS assessment.

In the future, organizers of Summer ELO would like to begin the staff hiring and student enrollment processes earlier and do all 20 days of summer learning before the July 4 holiday weekend so that students do not need to take time off during Summer ELO.

Social Media

A full social media report is available upon request.

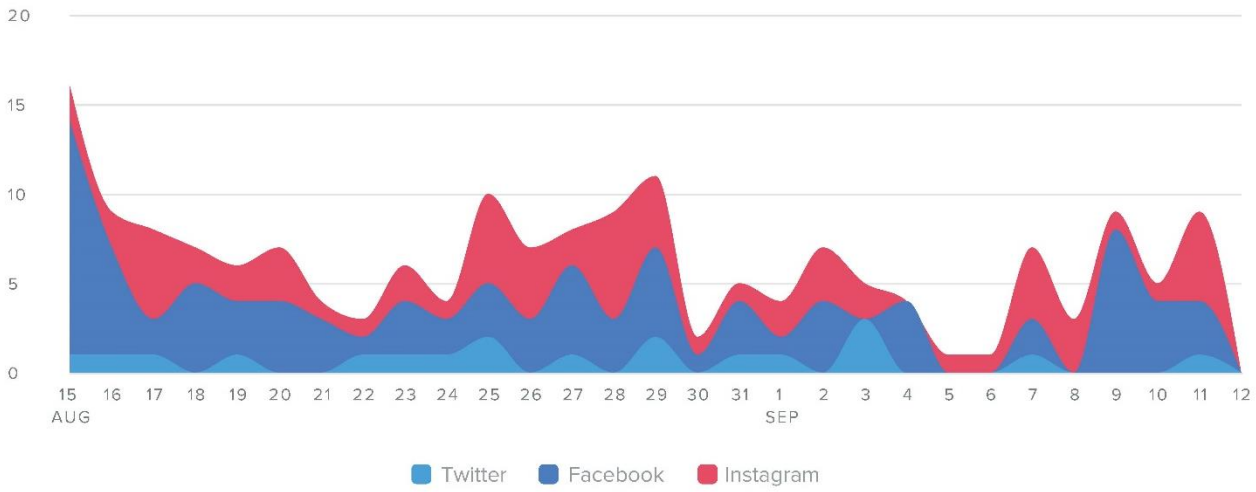
Group Stats by Profile/Page

Profile/Page	Total Fans / Followers	Fan / Follower Increase	Messages Sent	Impressions	Impressions per Message Sent	Engagements	Engagements per Message Sent	Link Clicks
School District 51 @district51	3,138	0.45%	60	28,005	466.8	654	10.9	233
Mesa Coun... ool District 51 Business Page	12,015	0.49%	105	524,775	–	34,870	–	6,999

Profile/Page	Total Fans / Followers	Fan / Follower Increase	Messages Sent	Impressions	Impressions per Message Sent	Engagements	Engagements per Message Sent	Link Clicks
School District 51 (Business) @d51schools	1,760	3.47%	10	13,930	1,393	435	43.5	–

Group Audience Growth

Followers Gained, By Day



Audience Growth Metrics	Totals	Total Followers % Change
Total Followers	**16,913**	↗ 0.79%
Total Net Follower Growth	**133**	
Twitter Net Follower Growth	14	↗ 0.45%
Facebook Net Fan Growth	60	↗ 0.49%
Instagram Net Follower Growth	59	↗ 3.47%

Total followers increased by

▲0.8%

since previous date range

New Fruita Elementary School Name

Board of Education Resolution 19/20: 20 Adopted: September 17, 2019

WHEREAS, on August 5 through August 19, 2019, the District requested community members, parents, students and staff to submit suggested names for the new school; and

WHEREAS, following receipt of over 700 suggested names, a naming committee was formed consisting of community members, parents and staff to select ten names as finalists, and

WHEREAS, from August 22 through August 30, 2019, the District surveyed community members, parents, student and staff to pick their favorite school name from the ten finalist, and

WHEREAS, the survey showed Monument Ridge, Fossil Ridge, and Canyon Ridge to be the top three names chosen; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education, was given the survey result, now

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education hereby selects the name of Monument Ridge Elementary School, as the name of the new elementary school located at 1501 K.4 Road.

I certify that the information contained herein is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education on September 17, 2019.

Bridget Story
Assistant Secretary, Board of Education

Mesa County Valley School District 51

Licensed and Administrative Personnel Action

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 15

Adopted: September 17, 2019

Name	Location	Assignment	Effective Date
Retirements			
NONE AT THIS TIME.			
Resignations/Termination			
LLOYD, ASHLEY	ORCHARD AVENUE	GRADE 4	8/27/2019
Leave of Absence			
MAGILL, BRENT	PEAR PARK	GRADE 4	9/6/2019
New Assignments (Transfer/New Hires)			
CONDON, STEVEN P	PEAR PARK	KINDERGARTEN	9/3/2019
HOISINGTON, TONJA LEILA	NISLEY	INTERVENTIONIST	9/3/2019
MEISTER, JANINE	MESA VIEW	INTERVENTIONIST	8/26/2019
SHERO, JUDY L	NISLEY	BEHAVIOR	8/20/2019

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District No. 51 Board of Education on September 17, 2019

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Bridget Story
Assistant Secretary, Board of Education

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Engage, Equip, and Empower

Mesa County Valley School District 51
GIFTS

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 17

Adopted: September 17, 2019

Donor	Annie Rucker
Gift	Cash
Value	$250.00
School/Department	Pomona Elementary / Ms. Rankin's classroom needs

Donor	Lisa Moot
Gift	Cash
Value	$30.00
School/Department	Pomona Elementary / Ms. Theobold's classroom needs

Donor	Jewel Keith
Gift	Bells
Value	$50.00
School/Department	Music Department / Band students

Donor	Family Health West Hospital
Gift	Cash
Value	$5,000.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / New marquee

Donor	Anonymous
Gift	Playground swing for physically handicapped students
Value	$2,000.00
School/Department	Special Education / Student in wheelchairs

Donor	Irvine Smith, Jenny Smith & Margaret Burback
Gift	Cash
Value	$50.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Boys' soccer

Donor	Jeremy and Darlene Dexter
Gift	Cash
Value	$50.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Boys' soccer

Donor	Colorado West Insurance
Gift	Cash
Value	$500.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Football

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Engage, Equip, and Empower

Mesa County Valley School District 51
GIFTS

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 17

Adopted: September 17, 2019

Donor	Clark Family Orchards Inc.
Gift	Cash
Value	$250.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Cheer Team

Donor	Andrew and Amy Mohler
Gift	Cash
Value	$1,000.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Cross Country

Donor	Andrew and Amy Mohler
Gift	Cash
Value	$500.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Baseball sound system repair

Donor	SCU Community Foundation
Gift	Cash
Value	$150.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Cheer Team

Donor	United Way of Mesa County
Gift	Cash
Value	$100.40
School/Department	Art Heritage / Elementary art program

Donor	Larry Jones and Chris Lehman Jones
Gift	Cash
Value	$1,050.00
School/Department	Central High School / Marching Band

Donor	Kevin and Jennifer Pratt
Gift	School supplies
Value	$60.00
School/Department	Broadway Elementary School / 2nd grade classrooms

Donor	Don and Kay Schlichting
Gift	$40 cash and school supplies
Value	$80.00
School/Department	Broadway Elementary School / Classrooms

School District 51
MESA COUNTY VALLEY
Engage, Equip, and Empower

Mesa County Valley School District 51
GIFTS

Board of Education Resolution: 19/20: 17

Adopted: September 17, 2019

Donor	Ruby Davis
Gift	School supplies
Value	$150.62
School/Department	Taylor Elementary School / Students

Donor	Bryan and Sondra Hemard
Gift	Cash
Value	$500.00
School/Department	Palisade High School / Football

Donor	Peter and Dana Booth
Gift	¼ bass, case and bow
Value	$1,500.00
School/Department	Redlands Middle School / Orchestra

Donor	Sam's Club
Gift	Paper products (paper plates, bowls, utensils, cups)
Value	$25.00
School/Department	Valley School / Student use for lunch

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education, in accepting the donations listed above, extends their appreciation and acknowledges these important partnerships within the community which support learning for all students.

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education on September 17, 2019.

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Bridget Story
Assistant Secretary, Board of Education

Resolution: 19/20: 16

Pitney Bowes Lease

September 10, 2019

The District was notified in July that the current mail manager service, Mail Managers, would permanently close on September 1, 2019. Mail Managers services included picking up un-posted mail, applying the correct postage and dropping off at local post office.

District staff met with the current owner of Mail Managers to decide whether to continue to contract this service or bring the services in house. No local vendors were found that provide this service.

Based on our current volume of mail services it was decided it would be in the best interest of the District to perform the mailing services within the District. The Mail Room/Switchboard operator would take over these duties. In order to perform these duties, the District is required to obtain a mailing system that will process our metered mail.

We received two quotes. Pitney Bowes offered the lower price and local service.

The cost of leasing the mailing system is $143.44 per month, for the processing machine, for 60 months. The District will still bear the cost of the postage. The District was paying Mail Managers an average of $3,463.00 per month for the fiscal year 18/19, which included postage.

Due to the immediate need and the simple contract provided, the Contracts Director ordered and signed the 60-month lease (pending board approval).

Lisa Sharp

I hereby certify that the information contained in the above resolution is accurate and was adopted by the Mesa County Valley School District 51 Board of Education on September 17, 2019.

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Bridget Story
Assistant Secretary, Board of Education