

**EDUCATION**

# D60's TV channel now in service

## Expansion of public access channel in the works

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THE PUEBLO CHIEFTAIN

Pueblo City Schools (D60) now has its own public access channel, and the board of education heard an update on both PCS-18 and the new broadcast program at South High School that hosts the enterprise.

Dalton Sprouse, the district's director of communications, and Don Shafer, supervisor of video production, presented information about the channel's soft launch and its wide-open future during Thursday's work session.

After approval from the city for use of Comcast Channel 18 was obtained in May, the venture was launched earlier this month. At present, 17 videos produced by South students and staff are on rotation 24 hours a day.

"And what you'll notice is that the channel looks great," Sprouse said.

While South is hosting the broadcasting program, the entire district will soon benefit, as channel content will be expanded to reflect all four high schools, extending to middle and elementary institutions. School principals and staff will be encouraged to submit info for broadcast.

The benefits of the channel are numerous, Sprouse said. In addition to a public showcase for district schools, their offerings and

programs, the channel will serve as a platform to alert parents and students to upcoming events, school closures, weather-related delays and other important information.

At South, full studio build-out will include a designated classroom and state-of-the-art set.

Once the facility is complete, a production team will begin creating the channel content, including a news broadcast by and for D60 students.

Hired as broadcasting instructor for the program is Donny Ruybal, praised as a talented innovator with a master's degree from Full Sail University in Florida.

The program's long-range goals also were touched on. They include wiring the Arapahoe Room, where board meetings are held, to connect with the channel so that meetings may be broadcast live. Likewise, running fiber connection to Dutch Clark Stadium will permit broadcasting content from that site.

"The students are not just going to learn the basics of a camera," Sprouse said. "They're going to learn so much more about journalism, about editing, how to interview and be interviewed, specifics about lighting, staging and blocking.

"Things like that, that a lot of people may not learn until they actually enter into the workforce."

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