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## School board discusses District 9 Chorus Festival held at Lackawanna Trail during meeting

By Ben Freda - For Abington Journal

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FACTORYVILLE — FACTORYVILLE — During the Lackawanna Trail School Board meeting on Feb. 8, high school principal Mark Murphy told board members about the Pennsylvania Music Educators Association District 9 Chorus Festival, held Feb. 3-5 at the high school.

Murphy acknowledged the school's Friends of Music group for hosting the event, which featured 160 students from five counties, and Trail's vocal music teacher Jodi Rinehimer for planning the event, including the food, music, rehearsal times, and how the music was rehearsed.

"I know she had a lot of help, but Miss Rinehimer deserves the tip of our cap for pulling that off," he said.

Murphy thanked the board members for supporting the festival. He also mentioned that nine Trail students are going to regional chorus, five are in the top three of their sections, and two are first chairs.

A student council 3-on-3 basketball tournament will be held Friday, Feb. 26 in the high school's gymnasium.

"It's an open tournament," said Murphy. "No pressure here to our board of education, but if anybody can drain a three-pointer and wants to school some high school students in the competition for a fundraiser, please sign up."

Murphy also announced a spring sports award ceremony will be held Monday, in the high school's auditorium on February 29.

In other business, the board voted to approve high school assistant principal Brian Kearney as track coach at a stipend of \$3,450. Superintendent Matthew Rakauskas congratulated Kearney as well as other coaches, such as volunteer assistant baseball coach Brad Higgins and volunteer track coach Christian Crinella, who were appointed during the meeting.

"It's not often than an administrator is also a coach," Rakauskas said about Kearney. "I think this is a unique situation."

In other news, elementary principal Brian Kelly announced that the elementary center is in the midst of the first year of implementation of a school-wide positive behavior support program.

"Monthly, we have immediate, intermediate, and long-term rewards for students that show our expected behaviors," he said.

Kelly announced the PTO (Parent-Teacher Organization) will host a "Me & My Guy Dance" at 6 p.m. Thursday, Feb. 11. It is for female students in grades K-6 and their fathers or guardians. EJ the DJ will provide musical entertainment.

Also, the board appointed Joseph Wasilewski as a substitute private driver and Tina Smith as a substitute bus driver.