

# THE ABINGTON JOURNAL

## Lackawanna Trail Board of Education approves new president

Posted on December 7, 2016 by Robert Tomkavage - [rtomkavage@timesleader.com](mailto:rtomkavage@timesleader.com)

FACTORYVILLE — Members of the Lackawanna Trail Board of Education voted 8-0 to approve Phil Stark as the board's new president during a reorganization meeting Dec. 5.



Stark, who has served on the board for three years, replaces David Thorne, who served in the position the last two years.

"I appreciate the support from my fellow board members," Stark said. "It's an honor to serve the board in this capacity and I want to thank Dave for his leadership over the past two years. It has been very much appreciated."

Thorne "respectively" declined a nomination for president made by board member Joseph Strauch.

"For the past two years, I've had the honor to serve as the president of this board," Thorne said. "I'd like to thank each and every member for their support and all they have done to help me succeed in that role."

"I believe in term limits and felt it was time to step aside, and I feel Phil is a good, capable man (for the position)."

Ned Clarke will continue to serve as the board's vice president after being approved by an 8-0 vote.

"It's a pleasure and an honor to serve this board, once again, as your vice president," Clarke said. "We have a strong board here. David, your leadership over the past few years has helped all of us and I'm looking forward to some fresh blood coming in."

Business Manager Keith Glynn discussed the difficulties rising cyber charter school costs are creating for the district. According to Glynn, the district has 46 students enrolled in cyber education plans.

"We're investing over \$800,000 into cyber learning environments, a lot of which is out of our control," Glynn said. "Every dollar we choose to spend on our students increases the amount of money (cyber charter schools) receive from us. It's a double-edged sword and it's going to be a budget killer for the foreseeable future until the state steps in and changes the regulations."

Members of the Lackawanna Trail Board of Education will meet for a work session meeting Tuesday, Jan. 3 and a regular meeting Jan. 9 at the district's administration building. Both meetings will begin at 7:30 p.m.