

THE ABINGTON JOURNAL

Lackawanna Trail School Resource Officer addresses Board of Education

by Robert Tomkavage - rtomkavage@timesleader.com

Posted November 14, 2018

FACTORYVILLE — Lackawanna Trail School Resource Officer Tyler Hinkley attended the district's regular Board of Education meeting Nov. 12 and presented members of the board with a report of incidents involving students.

Hinkley, a member of the Dalton Police Department, patrols the elementary center and high school.

"In the beginning of the school year, I dealt with a total of 12 incidents," Hinkley said. "The numbers are down since then."

Elementary Center Principal Brian Kearney praised Hinkley's work during the school year.

"He's been a tremendous asset to not just the Lackawanna Trail Elementary Center, but the school district as a whole," Kearney said. "It's very important, from my perspective, that our students gain a respect for law enforcement at a young age and understand they are here to help us. He's been tremendous with the students, faculty and staff. We're thrilled to have him on a daily basis."

Members of the board voted 6-0 to approve Creditech as the collection agency the district would use to collect delinquent student cafeteria account balances if the board chooses to create a policy that allowed for the collection of cafeteria debts.

Per Business Manager Keith Glynn, the balance of the student delinquent fund is currently more than \$2,000.

Superintendent Matthew Rakauskas announced the Wyoming County Juvenile Court assigned Joseph Viadella to replace Daralyn Carr as the district's law enforcement liaison.

Rakauskas added that the district received a \$25,000 grant for school safety and security. Approximately \$12,500 will be spent in the elementary center and high school to upgrade the security of entryways and doors in each building.

Special Education Director Amie Talarico announced that parents of students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP) should have received a letter regarding a parent survey that must be completed for the district's cyclical monitoring. According to Talarico, only 1.07 percent of parents have completed the survey thus far. Anyone who does not have internet access and needs assistance to complete the survey can contact Talarico at 570-945-5184.

Reach Robert Tomkavage at 570-704-3941 or on Twitter @rtomkavage.