

Trail accepts strategic plan

February 27, 2008

FACTORYVILLE- Lackawanna Trail School District will move forward on a five-year strategic plan after the Board of School Directors approved the initiative 6-0 at the Feb. 19 meeting. The strategic plan, which will be implemented from 2008 through 2011, was developed in accordance with guidelines set forth by the Pennsylvania Department of Education. These guidelines, according to the department's web site, were put into place to evaluate individual school districts' yearly progress as part of an accountability system in accordance with federal No Child Left Behind legislation. Lackawanna Trail's individual strategic plan will include five key points, including: academic standards and assessment, professional development, teacher induction, a technology plan and a special education plan.

The board commended the efforts of several members for their hard work in developing the plan, including Dr. Michael Mould, high school principal Matthew Rakauskas and curriculum director Janice Joyce. "We'd just like to thank everyone involved for what may have seemed like a thankless job that someone has to do," said Frank Tylutki, president of the Board of School Directors.

The Strategic Plan can be read in its entirety on the district's web site, www.ltsd.org.

The school board also unanimously approved the adoption of a policy for graduation requirements, as well as a Dual Enrollment Agreement with Keystone College for the 2008-2009 school year and a contract for special education services with Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit for the current school year. Also accepted was a first reading for a resolution pertaining to the school board's governance and code of conduct.

Superintendent Robert Jurbala reacted to questions after a local news station reported that evening that 17 local school districts, including Lackawanna Trail, had purchased recalled beef products from Hallmark/Westland Meat Packaging Co. of Chino, Calif. "The safety of our students is paramount to us," said Jurbala, adding that the district would look further into the report. The school district has since released a statement on Lackawanna Trail High School's web site, www.ltsdhs.org, reassuring parents that, although the district has purchased beef from Advance Food Company, which receives products from Hallmark/Westland, product lot numbers on the beef purchased by the district do not match those on the recall list.

In other business:

* The board appointed John Hickok as assistant baseball coach and approved the addition of Jeremy Stephens, Tunkhannock, to the district substitute list as a van driver. The school board also announced a search for candidates to fill a vacancy after accepting Kimberly Saxton's resignation as a school board director from Region 1, which includes Nicholson Borough and Nicholson and Clinton townships. Interested parties are encouraged to forward a letter of interest to the administration building at PO Box 85, Factoryville, PA, 18419.

Read more: http://archives.timesleader.com/2008_37/2008_02_27_Trail_accepts_strategic_plan_-abington.html#ixzz4HBjyaqwz