

LT's Kearney likely new track coach

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The Lackawanna Trail School board on Monday, noted during its work session that it expects to fill its track coaching vacancy with Brian Kearney, who presently serves as high school assistant principal.

Board vice president Ned Clarke said that Kearney would be recommended and his background makes him an excellent choice for the position.

Before taking his present position at Trail two years ago, Kearney was a well-respected track coach at Valley View, taking his teams to 52 consecutive victories and he was twice named Coach of the Year in the Lackawanna League of PIAA's District 2, which Trail also competes in.

Some concern arose about whether the coaching assignment might interfere with his administrator responsibilities and Principal Mark Murphy said he didn't see it as a problem.

Kearney thanked the board for its confidence, and said he is really looking forward to working with the students as the new track coach, once the appointment becomes official.

In other business, it was reported that the next reading of Policy No. 246 on Student Wellness will have to be postponed until March. The board was scheduled to approve the second reading of the Wellness Program in February, but changes in the management of the district's cafeteria system require the postponement.

If all goes according to plan, the board will give final approval to the Wellness Program in April or May.

It was also recommended that Van Strien Consulting Proposal of Services be approved for the E-Rate program in the 2016-17 funding year at a rate of \$3,000 for Category One requests and \$2,000, plus 2 percent of committed funds for Category Two requests.

The board also received a recommendation for next Monday that it approve separately the Division of Federal Program PDE Policies as they relate Cash Management, Conflict of Interest, Travel Reimbursement, and Allowability of Costs.

As reported during the recommendation, although it would be simpler to approve all the policies at the same time, it is better to approve them separately to prevent the district from being open to allegations of abuse of federal funds.

Curriculum director Tania Ross explained said there have been instances where other agencies have misspent federal money because they did not follow the guidelines for approval. Ross also emphasized during the meeting that none of these agencies was connected to the Lackawanna Trail School District.

It was also recommended that the board consider an educational sabbatical leave request for Meaghan Jones for the first semester of the 2016-2017 school year.