

## Trail proposes \$20.8M budget

by Reggie Sheffield

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The Lackawanna Trail school board presented a \$20,874,152 proposed final budget for the 2017-18 school year Monday night and is expected to give its okay at its next regular session on May 8.

District business manager Keith Glynn said that because Lackawanna County assessed values had not been finalized for the coming tax year, a new millage rate was not given.

He reiterated what had been stated at previous Trail school board meetings, and that was that any tax increase, if needed, would not exceed a state-imposed Department of Education index of 3.2 percent.

Glynn did, however, ask board members for permission to advertise, in the event it would be needed, for a Tax and Revenue Anticipation Note to cover any fiscal shortfall in the event the state budget does not come in on time during the new school year.

“My fear is that if the state budget does not get kicked off on time we would need a tax anticipation note to carry us in that intermediary period,” he said.

“It’s preventative at this point for me to ask permission to solicit bids,” he said.

Glynn noted that each Tax and Revenue Anticipation Note, known as a TRAN, costs about \$2,000.

In other business, the board heard without voting on:

\*A \$24,800 bid from KIT Communications to rewire the junior and senior high school’s network cabling. KIT’s bid was the lowest of three with the next closest bid coming in at \$34,000.

\*A proposal that the board approve an agreement between the district at the Northeastern Educational Intermediate Unit for the 2017-2018 school year.

\*The appointment of Kelly Services for substitute teacher and support staff calling services for the 2017-2018 school year.

\*A request that it approve the appointment of Dr. Rajah Mulloth as the district physician at a stipend of \$10,000.

\*A first reading of proposed Policy #718 relating to Service Animals in Schools.

\*A first reading of Policy #246, a proposed district Wellness Policy.

\*A request that the board approve five days maximum of summer employment for three guidance counselors at a total payment of \$6,008.

\*A request that the board approve new advertising rates for the high school and elementary gyms.

\*A request to approve a separation agreement between the district and Linda Lombardo.

\*A request to consider Kelly Buck as the interim Head Junior High Softball Coach at a prorated stipend of \$3,350.

\*A request to approve a list of proposed field trips of Broadway productions at a cost not to exceed \$100.