

Trail parents concerned coaching position lost

by Robert Baker

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About 20 parents and interested residents showed up at the Lackawanna Trail School Board work session Monday night to plead for a coaching position which they had heard might be eliminated.

The parents, including Christy Clarke, were concerned because assistant cross country coach Laura Evans had moved on, and they thought as a cost-savings gesture, the board might think that money could be saved if the position were cut.

Discussion focused on the coach-to-student ratio, how junior high athletes would be monitored after their shorter races were over, how injuries would be taken care of, and increased liability.

High school principal Mark Murphy told the group head coach Keith Youtz had not brought the concern to him, a fact disputed by one of the parents.

Although not a voting meeting, board president Philip Stark polled the board members about whether the matter should be added to the following week's agenda and all were in favor except for board member Joe Strauch dissenting.

It will be addressed.

Other items to come before the board at its meeting at 7:30 p.m., Aug. 14:

*Consider entering into a 60-month lease agreement with Topp Business Solutions - a move that might yield an estimated \$1,387 in savings;

*Join an E-Rate program for 2017-18;

*Approve a 1-year agreement with naming rights for the Lackawanna Trail High School auditorium for \$5,000 to Firts National Bank;

*Appoint mentors for teachers Sarah Rhinard and Jessica Bentley;

*Approve an unpaid leave for Kenneth Yerkes through Dec. 21;

*Approve a bus contractor rate at state formula for 2017-18;

*Approve a car and van driver rate at \$1.45 as per state formula;

*Approve bus contractors and drivers list for the coming year;

*Approve Yvonne Kwiatkowski as a volunteer girls volleyball coach;

*Approve Mike Dalton and Eric Haft as volunteer band assistants to be allowed to drive district vehicles;

*Approve an Interact Club adviser in the high school, the name is not yet identified; and

*Approve the retirement of maintenance worker Ron Corby effective Oct. 12.