

LT school board hires principal

ROBERT BAKER / Published: April 11, 2018

The Lackawanna Trail School Board on Monday night approved a new K-12 Principal of Student Management position, and hired Rebekah King, an eighth grade teacher at Valley View, effective Aug. 1.

King's starting salary will be \$67,000 a year.

The board's vote was seven in favor with Michael Mould voting against and Adrian Bianchi abstaining because he said he was not available to attend all of the interviews.

Following the appointment, Superintendent Matthew Rakauskas said the high school had been without a vice principal for two years, and while the details had not been worked out completely, the thinking was that the new position would oversee discipline and attendance matters with about 60 percent of her time spent at the high school and about 40 percent at the elementary center.

The board also voted 8-1 to approve a lease agreement with Tower North to construct a cell phone tower on the district's Tunnel Hill Road property not too far from the football field.

During a work session on April 3, the board entertained a presentation Barbara Burba, the chief executive officer of Amerisite, which was representing the interests of Tower North.

She shared a number of details about site selection and and construction expectations. During the work session the week before, conversation seemed to be cued on the district's interest in getting a lump sum payment of \$150,000, and how that could possibly underwrite the costs of an additional security officer across the district.

Burba was quite explicit that if her company could not build on Trail property than it would just do so on a neighboring property.

This past Monday the question was more on a month-to-month arrangement with the terms of the proposed rental contract not specifically described.

In other business, the board

*approved a 2018-2019 Academic Calendar, which had the first day of classes for students set at Aug. 30, and an expected graduation date of June 7, 2019.

* approved a contract with Pivot for Athletic Training (\$22.50 per hour), Physical Therapy (\$100 per hour), Occupational Therapy (\$100), for the 2018-2019 school year and Speech Pathology Services for extended school year only (\$90 per hour) for the 2018-2019 school year.

*approved an agreement between Lackawanna Trail School District and Wyoming County Juvenile Court for contracted services for the 2018-2019 school year, at a cost of \$13,500.

*approved an agreement between the Lackawanna Trail School District and Dalton Borough Police Department for (\$38 per hour) for the 2018-2019 school year.

*approved a contract with the Nutrition Group Inc. for the 2018-2019 school year at a guaranteed budget of \$22,691.

*appointed Sweet, Stevens, Katz, Williams (John G. Audi) as school solicitor at a rate per the proposed agreement, effective July 1, 2018 through June 30, 2019, with no increase in rates. Rakauskas said Audi would be paid \$185 an hour for specialized services, and \$125 an hour for regular hours.

*approved single audits from 2014-2015, 2015-2016, and 2016-2017 all prepared by Murphy, Dougherty.

*approves the Learning Support's field trip request to take students to Dorney Park, in Allentown on Thursday, June 7, at no cost to the district.

*approved the retirement of Debra Curmaci effective at the end of the 2017-2018 school year.

*approved the retirement of Sandra Spott effective Jan. 1, 2019.