

## Trail names principal

by Robert Baker

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The Lackawanna Trail School Board announced its appointment Monday night of assistant high school principal Brian Kearney to become the Lackawanna Trail Elementary Center principal effective July 1 at an annual salary of \$82,500.

Kearney replaces Brian Kelly who is stepping down June 30 to become the principal of Forest City Regional Elementary School.

The acceptance of Kelly's resignation at Trail was on the agenda, and during the course of the board's meeting, it was noted that the board had also been considering in executive session appointing a new special education director.

The present director Stephanie Russell was not identified as having submitted a letter of resignation, but outside the board meeting she acknowledged she had been hired for a similar post in the Cheltenham School District in the greater Philadelphia area.

Asked if the assistant high school principal position would be filled, board president David Thorne said that it would not.

For the better part of 2016, district business manager Keith Glynn acknowledged he has been trying to keep expenditures down, and already announced in May that property taxes in the Wyoming County part of the district would be going up 12.5 percent; and for the Lackawanna County part of the district would be going up eight percent.

The board on Monday also approved a memorandum of understanding between the district and its Act 93 (administrative employees) that a pay freeze would be in effect.

Glynn said the savings amounted to about \$30,000 across the course of one year.

In the early part of the board meeting, there was a presentation about the junior varsity baseball and softball programs.

Both Superintendent Matt Rakauskas and athletic director Harry Powell spoke about the fact that the junior varsity baseball teams saw four games this season and JV softball teams seven games.

They suggested to the board that if the district fielded both junior high baseball and softball teams there would be an opportunity for younger athletes to see more playing time.

The board took no action, but said it would address the matter possibly at its next board meeting June 27.