

**Trail gets new K-12principal**Robert Baker / Published: October 15, 2019

The Lackawanna Trail School Board met last Tuesday night (Oct. 15) and hired one of its own teachers, Shannon Kuchak, to be the K-12 Principal of Student Management at an annual salary of $79,808, beginning Dec. 3.

Kuchak has taught for 15 years in the Lackawanna Trail Elementary Center, and this year is teaching fifth grade math and science. She has an undergraduate degree from Mansfield and a master’s from Wilkes University.

The appointment was made just moments after the board unanimously approved a settlement and release agreement for Rebekah King,who had previously held the principal’s post.

No details of the agreement were released.

The Trail school board also unanimously chose to renew business manager Keith Glynn’s contract for five years with the first year’s salary under the new contract set at $90,000.

Superintendent Matt Rakauskas also announced that last week the schools in the district went through an emergency drill, with Wyoming County’s EMA director on hand to help monitor its activity.

Board member Adrian Bianchi, who is a volunteer fireman with the Factoryville Fire Company, said “the event went well, with just a little tweaking to do.”

In other action, the board approved Christopher Hooker as a volunteer for the boys junior high basketball team for 2019-20. The board also approved an update of a school policy dealing with fraud.

During administrator reports, Rakauskas gave out certificates from the Pennsylvania School Boards Association- one recognizing Michael Mould for 12 years of service and another for Joseph Strauch for eight years of service. Strauch was not at the meeting.

High School Principal Mark Murphy gave shouts out to fall sports teams and the band’s stellar performance at a competition in Pittston two weeks earlier.

Elementary principal Brian Kearney complimented his students for their second fire drill of the school year with all 507 students out within four minutes.

He also thanked area fire companies for their outreach during fire protection week.

Special education director Amie Talarico gave a shout out to TV Channel 16 and to the Wyoming County Press Examiner regarding a program that works with the Oppenheim Center at Keystone College.

Transportation director Rick Kordish announced that the district had finished up its security grant which upgraded the 1992-93 system to 21st Century Technology