

**Trail school board extends appreciation** BY KEVIN MCCONLOGUE Press Examiner Nov 4, 2020

The Lackawanna Trail School Board met via Zoom for a work session on Monday night, and the meeting started with a message of gratitude from school board president David Thorne to the entire Lackawanna Trail community.

“I’m proud of our faculty, staff, administrators, students, and all of our Lions community,” Throne said. “They are going through everything they possibly could, we are one of the only school districts that is back fully brick and mortar, but we are also offering a fully virtual option if a student chooses to. Everyone needs to be all in together to make this work, and so far everyone has been all in.”

Lackawanna Trail High School returned to in-person instruction on Monday, Oct. 26 after two weeks of virtual learning, because seven students and two staff members tested positive for COVID-19.

The whole district is now back to in-person learning, however Lackawanna Trail will continue to offer their fully virtual option if a student chooses to go the fully remote route.

In other business, Trail Business Manager Keith Glynn said smartboards at both the elementary and secondary schools are in need of upgrades.

The board’s finance committee suggested making the purchases now, because of the students who are taking advantage of virtual learning, rather than waiting and running into a possibility where there are problems with the smartboards.

“We need to get these fixed now,” Glynn said. “Especially with some students learning virtually, these Smartboards are a huge help to the teachers. Using them can make viewing the lessons easier for the students, so this is a big priority.”

The 26 new smartboards will cost the district $38,000. To run the boards, the district will also need 15 new projectors at a cost of $500 each. The total cost to replace all of the technology will be approximately $45,500.

Glynn recommended the purchase of wireless mouse’s for elementary students to use with their computers at school. This will cost another $5,000. The School Board will vote on these upgrades at Monday’s (Nov. 9) regular meeting at 7:30 p.m.

The board will vote on some adjustments to the school board policies on lesson plans; immunizations and communicable disease; health examinations/screenings; telework; physical exam; penalties for tardiness; job related expenses; working periods; sick leave; responsibility for student welfare; safety; school calendar; public attendance at school events; and school visitors.

Lackawanna Trail Food Service Group also announced that it will be having a town hall on Wednesday night (Nov. 4) via Zoom to talk about the district’s food distribution program for the rest of the year. You can find the link for the Zoom meeting at the school district’s website: www.ltsd.org.