

LAKE-LEHMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT

History Day winners cited

By CAMILLE FIOTI
Dallas Post Correspondent

The Lake-Lehman regular school board meeting was packed with students and their families as superintendent James McGovern congratulated each of them for their various achievements.

McGovern and the board acknowledged the following winners of the 2009 National History Day Award: Gabi Olshemski, Brittany Austin, Rebecca Stull, Lindsey Knepp, Shawni Scott, Shelby Foster, Tyler Calkins, Kristen Boyle, Bryan Carter, Marissa Moosic, Nathan Rinehouse, Mariah Raspen, Kate Williams, Richard Urban, Rachel Holena, Alexandra Jayne, Paige Vacante, Elliot Anderson and Briar Moore.

The board also acknowledged the boys and girls high school basketball teams for winning the Wyoming Valley Officials Sportsmanship Award and the girls high school track team for winning the district championship.

The board presented former board secretary Jacqueline McHale with a clock to commemorate her 19 years as board secretary. Last month, McHale, who is also the district's human resource manager, resigned as board secretary. Mary Jo Casaldi was appointed to replace McHale. Casaldi is also an administrative assistant to the superintendent.

In other business, board mem-

ber Pete Farrell was appointed to the teachers' contract negotiating team. Farrell replaces board member John Oliver who asked to be removed from the team for business and personal reasons.

At a special meeting at Ross Elementary School last week, the board held a second vote to a fact finder's report which proposed a possible solution to the nearly four-year-old contract dispute. The board rejected the report 9-0. The proposal called for moderate pay raises, small co-pays for prescriptions and doctor visits and no early retirement incentive. The first vote was rejected by both the board and the union.

In other news, McGovern announced that the district received a \$100,000 Demonstration Grant sponsored by State Senator Lisa Baker. The grant will fund a district-wide foreign language initiative, including a wireless foreign language lab and on-line Chinese course at the high school and a Rosetta Stone package throughout the district.

The grant will also help fund a Student Assistance Program in the elementary schools to help at-risk students and a district-wide character and morality curriculum which would help students learn bully coping mechanisms.

The board also voted to accept the letter of retirement from junior-senior high school music teacher Jonathan Pineno, effective the end of the school

year. The board voted to advertise for a music teacher to replace Pineno.

Appoint the following individuals as substitute teachers: Elizabeth Romanski of Factoryville, Timothy Roberts of Wilkes-Barre and Elizabeth Snipas of Mountaintop.

Accept the letter of retirement from Catherine Edwards-Simms, a teacher at Lake-Noxen Elementary, effective the end of the school year. She was appointed as a substitute teacher for the 2009-2010 school year.

Accept the letter of retirement from Susan Yogodzinski, a teacher at Ross Elementary, effective the end of the school year.

Enter into an agreement between the district and Luzerne County Community College for Project RISE, a remediation in secondary education, which will run from July 6 through August 13, 2009.

Enter into an agreement with WVIA for the 2009-2010 school year to provide K-12 instructional television services at a rate of \$1,500.

The meeting was recessed and will continue at 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 27, for the purpose of voting on a preliminary 2009-2010 school-year budget.

Camille Fiotti is a correspondent for The Dallas Post. She can be reached at 675-5211.

SCHOOL BRIEFS

DHS Dance Team tryouts scheduled

Tryouts for the Dallas High School Dance Team will be held from 5 to 7 p.m. on Tuesday, May 26, in the Dallas High School gym.

Tryouts are open to all Dallas High School student who will enter grades nine through 12 in the 2009-2010 school year. Students trying out should

wear form-fitting clothes and no baggy clothes for safety and ease of movement. Sneakers are also recommended.

Sem students to present program

Wyoming Seminary student musicians will present the annual Farewell/Senior Recital at 4 p.m. on Friday, May 29, in the Great Hall of Wyoming Semi-

nary, 228 Wyoming Ave., Kingston.

The performance is free and open to the public. For more information, call 270-2190.

LL Class of '99 plans reunion

The Lake-Lehman High School Class of 1999 will hold its 10th anniversary reunion from 6 to 10 p.m. on Saturday, July 11, at The Lakeside Skillet, Harveys Lake. Call 237-6048.

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