

DALLAS SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Keystone Exams, dress code on board's agenda

By SARAH HITE  
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The Dallas School Board received an update about the looming state-mandated Keystone Exams at a meeting Monday night.

Paul Reinert, director of curriculum and instruction and assistant superintendent, said it is still difficult to determine what will be required of the district because information on the exams is constantly changing — he called them “a moving target.”

The Keystone Exams are end-of-course tests created by the state Department of Education that will be required of high school students in 10 subjects — Algebra I, Algebra II, Geometry, Literature, English Composition, Biology, Chemistry, U.S. History, World History and Civics and Government.

Reinert said the district can administer the state-created exams and have them count for one-third of students' grade in each corresponding course or allow the test to be taken without interfering with students' course grades. However, students must score proficiently on the test in the latter scenario or they will not be eligible for a diploma.

The district could also have

**“This is my 10th year in high school administration, and I just realized it. When it comes to fashions with high school age kids, fashions come faster than we can make policies.”**

Jeffrey Shaffer  
Dallas High School principal

the option to create its own assessment for each course, but these exams would need to be validated by the state Department of Education.

Reinert also said creating a local assessment may interfere with the district's ability to meet state Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) standards. He said the No Child Left Behind Act is set to expire, and with that federal Act's realignment, Adequate Yearly Progress reporting may also change — and may depend on the usage of the Keystone Exams.

He said the Keystone Exams have been put on hold for now — with state budget cuts, it may be

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Elizabeth Fairchild, of Shavertown, and Alice Bartlett, of Dallas, meet at the appetizer table.



Deb Cooper, right, of Dallas, explains to Cassie Munzing, of Shavertown, how she isn't trying to cut into the appetizer line.

## Friends enjoy lunch

The Friends of the Back Mountain Memorial Library hosted their 23rd Annual Luncheon with a Special Author on April 28 at the Appletree Terrace, Newberry Estate, Dallas.

Guest speaker was Mary Garity Slaby, an area author and teacher.

Slaby, whose pen name is Mollie Roe, is a veteran language arts and reading teacher at Lake-Lehman Junior-Senior High School. She holds a Ph.D. in education from Temple University and has PA Teaching Certifications in six areas. She was born



CHARLOTTE BARTIZEK PHOTOS/ FOR THE DALLAS POST

Kay Simons, left, Ann Russin, center, and Nancy Edgerton greet each other at the luncheon.

in Philadelphia, raised in Schuylkill County and resides in Dallas.

“Call Me Kate: Meeting the Molly Maguires,” winner of a

2010 Mom's Choice Award, is the first in the author's trilogy of historical novels loosely based on the lives of her ancestors and

takes place in our own back yard. All proceeds from the luncheon and sale of books will benefit the library.

# Rep. Boback is named 2011 Woman of the Year in Politics

The Luzerne County Council of Republican Women presented State Representative Karen Boback (R-Harveys Lake) with the 2011 Woman of the Year in Politics award on Saturday, April 30.

The honor was bestowed upon Boback at the Women in Politics Breakfast hosted by The Luzerne County Council of Republican Women at the Ramada Inn downtown Wilkes-Barre.

Dolores Grabko, president, Luzerne County Council of Republican Women, provided the welcome and introduction for the presenters who included State Senator Lisa Baker (R-Luzerne); Reverend Charles Gommer, campaign chairman, Friends of Karen Boback; and State Representative Tarah Toohil (R-Luzerne).

Boback, Ph.D. was first elected in 2006 to serve the 117th District in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives. She serves on the House Agriculture and Rural Affairs, Gaming Oversight, Tourism and Recreational Development and Veterans Affairs and Emergency Preparedness committees. She is the subcommittee chairman of Military and Veterans Facilities, and Speaker of the House. Sam Smith appointed her to serve on the Veterans' Home Advisory Council for the Gino J. Merli Veterans Center (Northeastern).

Moderator for the awards program was State Representative Tarah Toohil who read a letter from Smith that stated in part: “Karen is so deserving of this honor. She is not only a wonderful representative on behalf of the Republican Party but, more importantly, she is a devoted and caring Representative of the 117th Legislative District in the Pennsylvania House of Representatives.”

Sen. Baker read a quotation by John Quincy Adams who stated, “If your action inspires others to dream more, learn more, do more and become more, you are a leader.” She when on to say, “Karen Boback embodies that statement. She is committed to serving the ci-



REP. KAREN BOBACK

tizens in her district and community.”

Sen. Baker was named the 2010 Woman in Politics of the Year at the inaugural awards breakfast in May 2010.

Reverend Charles Gommer, campaign chairman, Friends of Karen Boback praised Rep. Bo-

back for her deep commitment to all of the residents in her district. “Karen has a positive vision for how to make things happen in our state,” he said.

A lifelong resident of northeastern Pennsylvania, Boback currently resides at Harveys Lake.

## Senior citizens will enjoy 44th annual dinner dance

“Hollywood Glamour” is this year's theme for the 44th annual senior dinner dance sponsored by the Area Agency on Aging for Luzerne-Wyoming Counties from 2 to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, May 11 at Genetti's Best Western, Wilkes-Barre.

Music will be provided by the “Fancy Dancer” band. There will be over 65 door prizes and a grand prize donated by Central Penn Gas for the lucky per-

sons chosen to be the King and Queen of the dance.

The event is open to all adults. Tickets are \$21 for age 60 plus and \$22 for under age 60 and include dinner choice of prime rib, sole stuffed with crab imperial or chicken francias. A cash bar will be available.

Tickets can be purchased at any senior center or by calling Rhonda Adams at 822-1159, ext. 3337.

JACKSON TOWNSHIP

# Supervisors will seek help to prevent future flooding issues

By EILEEN GODIN  
Dallas Post Correspondent

Supervisors agreed to seek help in preventing future flooding, announced an upcoming municipal auction and showed off awards received for involvement in the Back Mountain Community Partnership agreement.

A unanimous vote was passed Monday morning to send a letter to the Luzerne County engineer for assistance in finding a permanent solution to prevent flooding from Hillside Creek in the area just below the Farmers Inn on Hillside Road.

Along with the region's current wet weather pattern, Jackson Township has dealt with Hillside Creek overflowing its banks twice this year, on March 11 and again on April 28. The water from the swollen creek, generated from overflow from Hillside Dam, washed across the lower section of Hillside Road, affecting a handful of homes.

Supervisor Al Fox suggested

supervisors contact the Luzerne County engineer to discuss options to prevent a recurrence. He said perhaps debris could be cleaned out of the stream, starting at the dam and heading downstream to the Kingston Township line. Supervisor Tim Evans agreed, stating something needs to be done before a “real problem” happens in that area.

The multi-municipal Emergency Management Agreement had an opportunity to be called into action due to the recent weather-related emergencies.

The EMA partnership, adopted by Jackson Township in February, combines Jackson Township emergency equipment resources with Dallas Township, Dallas Borough, Lehman Township, Kingston Township and Franklin Township.

Supervisor John Wilkes Jr. said the agreement was invaluable as assistance from neighboring municipalities, along with help from SCI-Dallas, helped “things go smoothly.”

In other news ...

• Supervisors approved a Back

Mountain Community Partnership resolution to hold a municipal auction at 10 a.m. on June 11 at the Jackson Township municipal building. Refreshments will be sold by members of Boy Scout Troop 146.

• Supervisors approved to change the status of David Lulewicz, a mechanic equipment operator from part-time to full-time as per the Road Department Union Contract. Lulewicz has worked with the Road Department as a part-time employee for the past seven years, Wilkes said.

• Supervisors authorized the road master to hire temporary seasonal recreation park attendants at a rate of \$7.25 per hour.

• Wilkes announced the Back Mountain Community Partnership had recently received awards from the Wilkes-Barre Chamber of Commerce, the Pennsylvania State Townships Association of Supervisors, the House of Representatives and Senate for entering into an agreement to share resources benefiting the quality of life of residents and better use of tax dollars.

ROSS TOWNSHIP

# Few radio units must be replaced

By EILEEN GODIN  
Dallas Post Correspondent

During Tuesday night's meeting, supervisors announced only a handful of radio communication units may need to be replaced due to a Federal Communication Commission law requirement.

Last month, supervisors discussed the need to determine how many of their radio communication units could be programmed and how many may need to be replaced.

Chairman Stanford Davis explained the FCC passed a law requiring all radio systems to operate on narrow band frequencies versus the wide band frequencies. The narrow band would create

more frequencies for future use.

Davis contacted Purosky and Tuckerman, a two-way radio dealer in Dickson City, and learned that most of the township's radio systems can be reprogrammed to operate on the narrow band.

The township owns nine mobile units and three portable radio communication units. In order to be in accordance with a new FCC regulation, Davis estimates four units will need to be replaced by October 2011.

“Quotes will be sought for new radios,” he said.

In other news ...

• Davis announced a free electronic recycling collection is scheduled from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on June 11 at the Hanover Junior Senior High School in Hanover

Township.

The following items will be accepted: answering machines, CD players, hard drives, mainframe computer equipment, modems, printers, radios, scanners, tape players, transparency makers, word processors, VCRs, personal computers, central processing unit, monitor, keyboard and mouse units, telephones, camcorders, copiers, fax machines, laptops, microwaves, mobile phones, pagers, printed circuit boards, remote controls, stereos, televisions and typewriters.

There is a 100-pound per item weight limit. Pre-registration is required for 20 or more computers or similar sized items.

Those wishing to participate should call 1-800-821-7654 for more information.