

NORTHERN TIOGA SCHOOL DISTRICT
110 Ellison Road
Elkland, PA 16920

Minutes – Work Session
April 28, 2025

The Northern Tioga School District Board of Directors met for a work session in the Board Room at 110 Ellison Road, Elkland, PA. The session was called to order by Board President, Julie Preston at 6:00 PM.

Board Attendance: Board Members Present: Greg Cummings, Rod Butler, James Moyer, Kim Strauser, Julie Preston, Denise Mack and Ed Bonham. Absent: Craig Stage and Allison D’Haene.

Administrators Present: Superintendent Kaufman, Kathy VanSchaick, Daren Bryant, Cheryl Sottolano, Dan Fie, Kathryn Slavinski, Rebecca Koehler, Bill Butterfield, and Matt Sottolano.

0.1 2025/2026 Budget Discussion

Kathy VanSchaick, Business Manager started by recapping the Budget Presentation provided during the April 14, 2025, Board Meeting. Kathy reviewed updated revenues and expenditures noting that the budget has a deficit of \$756,017. Possible approaches were reviewed with the Board to address the deficit that included increasing proposed state revenues, tax increases, and the use of reserves. After much discussion, the proposed 2025-26 budget will include increasing state revenues to the amounts proposed by the Governor, and a 3% tax increase.

0.2 2025/2026 Equipment Request Discussion

2025/2026 Equipment Requests, totaling \$301,603.00, were reviewed by the Board. These items will be purchased with funds remaining from the 2024/2025 budget, if any. There is also \$167,200.00 in technology replacement items that will be funded with the Technology Reserve. Todd Terpstra stated to the board that the technology request costs could be affected by the changes occurring with tariffs.

0.3 Condensed Agenda

Mr. Kaufman explained to the board that we are looking to condense the action items portion of our board meeting agendas. An example was provided, with actions items split into 2 motions voice vote items and roll call vote items. All information will still be presented as normal; however, this will eliminate the need for a motion on each item. Board members will have the opportunity to request an item to be removed from the grouped action item to be discussed and voted on separately. The board agreed to use this approach at the upcoming May Board meeting.

0.4 Athletic Facility Discussion

Mr. Kaufman explained to the board what was discussed during the preceding Buildings and Grounds Committee meeting. This entailed the updated project cost breakdown on the proposed athletic facility. Also, he asked for the full Boards approval to proceed with the recommendation to apply for the RACP grant in a 2-phase approach.

0.5 Open Forum

Steve Spencer, Corning, NY

Mr. Spencer wanted to thank the board and administration for support over the past few months as he moved into his role of Northern Tioga Education Association Union President.

Bob Goodrich, Osceola, PA

Mr. Goodrich thanked the board for looking at the big picture when discussing a possible tax increase and being reasonable with the taxpayers in mind.

The board adjourned the work session at 6:47 PM.

Brittany Mondock
Board Secretary