

NORTHERN TIOGA SCHOOL DISTRICT
110 Ellison Road
Elkland, PA 16920

Minutes – April 12, 2021

1.0 OPERATIONS

1.1 Call to Order

The regular monthly meeting of the Northern Tioga School District Board of Directors was called to order by President, Julie Preston at 7:05 PM.

Executive Session – An executive session followed the March 22, 2021 work session for the purpose of legal and personnel issues.

Executive Session – An executive session preceded the meeting for the purpose of legal and personnel issues.

1.2 Moment of Silence

A moment of silence was led by Julie Preston.

1.3 Pledge of Allegiance

Julie Preston led those present in the Pledge to the Flag.

1.4 Board Attendance: Board Members Present: Julie Preston, Greg Cummings, Jean Kohut, Ian McLaughlin, Jolene Meisner, James Moyer, Jim Neal, and Kim Strauser. Via Zoom: Ed Bonham.

Administrators Present: Superintendent Barnes, Kathy VanSchaick, Jeremy Freeman, Dan Fie, Amy Coots, Christina Fry, Jess Millard, Kris Kaufman, Cheryl Sottolano, and Matt Sottolano.

1.5 Student/Staff Recognitions & Presentations

Student of the Month

Williamson High School – Sharley Brown

Sharley Brown, a Junior at Williamson Jr./Sr. High School, has been selected as the high school Student of the Month for the month of April. Sharley resides in Millerton with her guardians Anthony and Misty Brown. Sharley was selected by the entire faculty at Williamson, and those that specifically nominated her shared that Sharley is one of the most polite and respectful students at Williamson. In addition, she is a hard worker in the classroom and comes to class every day with a positive attitude and a bright smile - something that every classroom could use this year. Sharley is an honors student that has been awarded both the Science 9 and the Physical Education Awards. Going into high

school, Sharley was also selected to be a part of the Summer Leadership Academy at Mansfield University.

Sharley is not only a great student, but also an active member of various clubs and sports teams. Sharley is involved with the student council and the prom committee, and has been on both the girls basketball and track teams. Both in and out of the classroom, Sharley helps to create a positive culture at Williamson, and is well-deserving of recognition as our April Student of the Month. Sharley, the faculty and staff of Williamson High School would like to congratulate you and let you know that we are very proud of you.

Williamson Middle School – Darby Crance

Williamson Middle School is proud to honor Darby Crance as the April Student of the Month. Darby is the daughter of Conrad and Lindsay Crance, of Lawrenceville. She has a younger brother Gabriel, who is a 7th grader at Williamson High School. Darby is also the granddaughter of Candy and Bill Crance and Linda Hughes’.

Darby loves spending time with her family, playing with animals, reading, drawing, writing, watching television and using social media. Her favorite subjects are American History, Art, and English. At Williamson, Darby is a member of the National Junior Honor Society, plays trumpet for the marching band, concert band and the jazz band, and sings in the chorus. Darby also plays middle school basketball and volleyball.

Darby is interested in criminal justice detective but is also interested in becoming a teacher. There is no doubt, Darby’s chosen career and life paths will meet with success. Williamson Middle School is very proud to recognize her as the April Student of the Month! Congratulations, Darby!

Cowanesque Valley High School – Shae Schoonover

Shae is a senior at Cowanesque Valley and is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. JD and Emily Kohut of Elkland and Mr. Kenneth Schoonover of Corning. The teacher that nominated Shae describes her as friendly, respectful, and responsible. They also commented that Shae is just so kind to everyone, she is just an awesome young woman! She is a high honor student that participates in Student Council, National Honor Society, Tennis, and the Ski Club. Shae is also the class secretary. She works at the Dream Cream Café in the summer. After graduation, Shae plans on attending Lock Haven University to pursue a career as an English teacher.

Cowanesque Valley Middle School – Zeraya Wilson

The Cowanesque Valley Middle School teachers are pleased to announce Zeraya Wilson as our middle school student of the month. Zeraya is in seventh grade and is the daughter of Kevin and Charrisse Wilson of Knoxville. She is a joy to have as a student. Her work is meticulous, and she is extremely responsible and diligent. She also participates in class and is helpful to her teachers and kind to her peers. Outside of the classroom, Zeraya plays soccer and softball. In the fall, she played junior high soccer and has just started the junior high softball season. She also plays softball for the Rebels travel team. Zeraya’s favorite classes are math and ELA, and she would like to one day be either a school counselor or elementary teacher. We are confident she would be great at both!! Great job, Zeraya!

R.B. Walter Elementary School – Aubrey Wells

R.B. Walter's April Student of the Month is Aubrey Wells!! Aubrey is the daughter of Sean and Tara Wells of Tioga. Aubrey is an active 6th grader who hopes to one day become a gym teacher to help kids stay active. Her favorite subject in school is Math because she likes to learn different ways to solve problems. She enjoys gaining new knowledge, learning life lessons, and being able to see her friends in school. Aubrey's a kind, caring, and hardworking young lady. Her role models are her parents. She hopes to one day join the fire company like her parents and help to save lives. Outside of school Aubrey can be found playing softball or volleyball. She enjoys any outdoor activity that she can participate in. She has won trophies for BMX riding, softball medals, and ribbons for 4-H. Aubrey demonstrates kindness and is one of the most hardworking students in this year's 6th grade class. She is always encouraging her classmates to try their hardest and not get discouraged. Congratulations, Aubrey! We are so pleased to honor you as R.B. Walter's *Student of the Month*.

Clark Wood Elementary School – Ellie Allen

Ellie Allen, a 5th grade student and the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Robert Allen of Osceola, is our Clark Wood Student of the Month. Throughout this school year, the fifth-grade teachers have stressed the importance of always "choosing kind." The April Student of the Month is a role model to others in being able to choose kind in all life situations. Ellie Allen is a sweet young lady who greets teachers each morning and afternoon with a smile and kind words. Being polite is just part of who she is and how she treats others.

Ellie actively participates in class and helps around the school without needing praise or attention. We can always count on her to do the right thing whether we are watching or not. Daily, she does what she needs to do with a sweet disposition. Ellie has a big heart! Selfless, caring, and hardworking are just a few ways to describe her. Ellie consistently puts the best interest of others ahead her own. She is a friend to all and offers a helping hand to any student or teacher in need. It has been a true pleasure to have Ellie in our classes, and we are more than proud to have her as our April Student of the Month.

Westfield Area Elementary School – Kadie Lampman

The Westfield Area Elementary School Student of the Month is Kadie Lampman. Kadie is a 6th grade, honor roll student. She is the daughter of Velvet Heck of Westfield and Ryan Lampman of Westfield. Kadie is a member of "The Tribe" newspaper club and she is an art helper. She also participates in volleyball and cheerleading. In her free time, she enjoys drawing, painting, and playing outside. Her teachers describe her as a hard working student that is a good role model for her peers. She is confident, kind, and thoughtful. She puts in a lot of extra time and effort to research and submit articles for our school newspaper, "The Tribe". We are proud to have Kadie Lampman as our Student of the Month!

1.6 Open Forum

Bob Goodrich, Osceola, PA

Mr. Goodrich offered words of encouragement to the Board.

1.7 Approval of Minutes

A motion was made by Ian McLaughlin, seconded by Jean Kohut, to approve the monthly meeting minutes from the March 8, 2021 regular meeting and the March 22, 2021 work session. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

1.8 Budget Transfers (Exhibit #2)

1.9 Approval of Bills (Exhibit #3)

A motion was made by Jim Neal, seconded by Kim Strauser, to approve (1.8) budget transfers as outlined in Exhibit #2; (1.9) bills as outlined in Exhibit #3. Roll Call Vote. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

Jean Kohut asked why the district paid Geist Water Consulting for certified operator services if Jeremy Freeman, Supervisor of Buildings & Grounds, has received his certification. Jeremy stated that he has his credentials but is not yet certified through the state.

1.10 Facility Use Permits (None) & Conferences (Exhibits #4 & #5)

1.11 Information & Correspondence

2.0 REPORTS

2.1 Superintendent's Report

C&N Bank – Presentation of Donation

Representatives from Citizens & Northern Bank presented a donation of \$20,000.00 to the school district. Dr. Barnes thanked them for the generous donation. Dr. Barnes shared that the funds will be used for the technology education programs in Cowanesque Valley High School and Williamson High School.

McKinney-Vento Monitoring Assessment

Dr. Barnes asked Dan Fie, Coordinator of Student Services, to share information about the McKinney-Vento Monitoring Assessment that was recently conducted for his department. Mr. Fie explained that the district is required to ensure that students identified as homeless have equal access to education and are provided with educational stability. Mr. Fie explained the ways that the district must ensure equal access to education is provided. There were no compliance issues noted for the district.

Protect Kids – First Annual Rally

Dr. Barnes shared that i'mPACT will be holding a rally in September to draw awareness to child abuse in Tioga County. They have asked for volunteers from our schools to help with the rally. The district can also make a donation to the rally if they would like.

District Update

The District Update was made available in the usual format.

2.2 Business Manager's Report

Monthly Reports – (Exhibits #6, #7, #8, #9, #10, #11, #12, #15)

A motion was made by Greg Cummings, seconded by James Moyer, to approve the Payroll Rate Changes, Capital Reserve Report, Financial Report, Cash Investment Report, Student Activity Report, Cafeteria Bills & Report, Transportation Changes, and Capital Projects Report as outlined in the Exhibits. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

2.3 Buildings and Grounds Report

Jeremy Freeman, Supervisor of Buildings and Grounds, provided the following updates to the Board for ongoing projects in the district:

Building Project: All warranty work has been completed. At Cowanesque Valley High School, the grass on the side of the office needs topsoil and to be reseeded. Downspouts at the office entrances at Cowanesque Valley High School and Williamson High School will be completed in May. They also plan to complete the rekeying process that was previously put on hold.

Secure Entrances: A walk-through is planned for April 16 to look at the entrances. At R.B. Walter Elementary, there is still some paint work to be completed. Punch lists need completed and cameras need installed.

Williamson High School Roof Replacement: The roof replacement is complete and repairs to the home ec room countertop are finished. The warranty on the roof will run from 11/25/2020 – 11/25/2050.

Cowanesque Valley High School Roof Replacement: The roof membrane is complete. Lightning protection is complete and has been third party inspected. Detail work around one roof top unit and one expansion joint still needs completed as well as trim details around the roof edge. The estimated completion for the project is the end of April. Mike Jones of Hunt has offered to look at the damage caused by the leaks during the replacement. Budget Roofing has offered to spray and replace ceiling panels. The project is currently on budget.

Building Automation: Williamson High School, R.B. Walter Elementary School, and Westfield Area Elementary School have been integrated and are running NRG graphics. Clark Wood Elementary School and Cowanesque Valley High School are partially complete. The project is currently on budget.

3.0 ACTION ITEMS

3.1 2020/2021 Co-Curricular Appointments (Exhibit #13)

3.2 2020/2021 Substitutes (Exhibit #14)

A motion was made by Jean Kohut, seconded by Kim Strauser, to approve (3.1) 2020/2021 co-curricular appointments as outlined in Exhibit #13; (3.2) 2020/2021 substitutes as outlined in Exhibit #14. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

3.3 Classified Appointment (Exhibit #18)

A motion was made by James Moyer, seconded by Jean Kohut, to appoint Jeanne Jones to the position of 2.5 hour per day cafeteria aide currently assigned at the R.B. Walter Elementary/Williamson High School at the rate of \$12.61 per hour, effective April 26, 2021 in accordance with the contractual agreement between the Northern Tioga School District and the Northern Tioga Education Support Professionals as outlined in Exhibit #18. Roll Call Vote. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

3.4 Grievance #2020-21-01

A motion was made by Jean Kohut, seconded by Kim Strauser, to deny Grievance #2020-21-01. Roll Call Vote. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

3.5 Student Discipline Matter #2020-21-01

A motion was made by Jim Neal, seconded by Greg Cummings, to approve Student Discipline Matter #2020-21-01. Roll Call Vote. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

3.6 Second Reading and Final Adoption of Policies (Exhibit #19, #20, and #21)

A motion was made by Jean Kohut, seconded by Jim Neal, to approve the second reading and final adoption of proposed changes to the following policies:

#123.2 - Sudden Cardiac Arrest (Exhibit #19)

#237 - Electronic Devices/Personal Property (Exhibit #20)

#907 - School Visitors (Exhibit #21)

Roll Call Vote. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

3.7 Extended School Year

A motion was made by Jean Kohut, seconded by Kim Strauser, to approve advertising in-house for three (3) extended school year special education teacher positions, one (1) social worker, one (1) nurse, and one (1) speech and language support teacher at the rate of \$150.00/day and six (6) paraprofessional positions at their current hourly wage beginning June 29, 2021 and ending July 29, 2021. The ESY Program will operate 3 days per week, 4 hours per day. Transportation will be provided for the students and the routes will be put out for bid. Extended School Year is required under IDEA regulations. Roll Call Vote. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

3.8 Approval of MOU (Exhibit #22)

A motion was made by Jolene Meisner, seconded by Jean Kohut, to approve the Memorandum of Understanding between the district and Penny's Daycare LLC as outlined in Exhibit #22. Roll Call Vote. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

3.9 School District Notary

A motion was made by Kim Strauser, seconded by Jolene Meisner, to approve Carey Starkweather and Kim Fish to take the necessary steps to meet the requirements to become a PA Notary for the district at a cost of approximately \$785.00 for a four year term. This will allow the district to have access to notary services. Roll Call Vote. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

3.10 Yard Signs for Seniors

A motion was made by Jean Kohut, seconded by Jolene Meisner, to approve the purchase of yard signs for the 2020/2021 seniors funded by each high school's general fund supply account. Roll Call Vote. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

3.11 Principal's Special Requests

A motion was made by James Moyer, seconded by Kim Strauser, to approve Mr. Sottolano, Principal of Cowanesque Valley High School, to use up to \$2,500.00 from his Principal's Special Request Fund to support student rewards, to make a deposit on next year's first day guest speaker, and to purchase furniture to outfit their new lobby. Mrs. Bonham and her students will utilize this as a class project and utilize information from the "Bridges Out of Poverty" in-service; Mr. Kaufman, Principal of Williamson High School, to use up to \$3,000.00 from his Principal's Special Request Fund towards the purchase of a portable, outdoor stage. The stage will be used during outdoor graduations along with other student activity events. Roll Call Vote. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

3.12 Administrative Building Summer Worker

A motion was made by Kim Strauser, seconded by Jolene Meisner, to approve the hiring of a summer worker at minimum wage to assist with various projects in the administrative offices during the summer. Roll Call Vote. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

3.13 Installation of Scoreboard & Electricity at WHS

A motion was made by Kim Strauser, seconded by James Moyer, to approve the installation of a scoreboard and electricity at the Williamson High School soccer field. Electric will be run from the existing concession stand to the new scoreboard. The scoreboard, materials, and labor are being donated by Larson Design Group and the Soccer Booster Club(s). All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

3.14 Out of Country Field Trip Request (Exhibit #23)

A motion was made by Jim Neal, seconded by Greg Cummings, to approve the Williamson High School Environmental Service & Outdoor Organization (WESOO) to travel to the Dominican Republic in June 2022 to spend time immersed in the Dominican culture while spending 18 hours of community service helping to rebuild the coral reefs around the island as outlined in Exhibit #23. (Trip was previously approved to take place in August 2020. The trip has been rescheduled due to COVID.) All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

3.15 Approval of Volunteers

A motion was made by Jean Kohut, seconded by Greg Cummings, to approve the following volunteers: Keith Andreason - Williamson High School and Christopher Hyde - Cowanesque Valley High School. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

4.0 NEW BUSINESS

5.0 ANNOUNCEMENTS

5.1 Future Board Meetings

An executive session for purposes authorized by the Sunshine Act may be held between tonight and the next Board meeting.

Board Work Session – April 26, 2021, 6:00 PM
Regular Board Meeting – May 10, 2021, 7:00 PM

5.2 Committee Meetings

6.0 ADJOURNMENT

A motion was made by Jolene Meisner, seconded by Kim Strauser, to adjourn. All votes were affirmative. The motion carried.

Adjournment was at 8:11 PM.

Alyson Yerrick
Board Secretary

All documents as attachments to the minutes not contained herein are maintained in a separate file located in the Superintendent's Office.