

NORTHERN TIOGA SCHOOL DISTRICT

110 Ellison Road
Elkland, PA 16920

Minutes – Work Session
March 28, 2022

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: Ed Bonham, Jean Kohut, Ben Howe, Jolene Meisner, Jim Neal, Kim Strauser, and Julie Preston. Greg Cummings and James Moyer arrived at 6:04.

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

Laurel Health Grant

Dr. Barnes requested permission from the board to sign the Laurel Health Grant application, which is due on April 9, 2022. It will involve Laurel Health, the school district, and Harbor Counseling in writing a \$150,000.00 grant. With this grant, Harbor would provide 30 hours/week on drug and alcohol counseling, which will provide an opportunity for individual counseling sessions as well. This grant would also include Narcan training, prevention programming, and prenatal care. Dr. Barnes provided a commitment letter for the board to review for approval of Dr. Barnes' signature. Permission was granted for Dr. Barnes to sign the commitment letter.

Update on PA Smart Grant

Kris Kaufman stated the PA Smart Grant has been submitted. Highlights regarding the grant were handed out and reviewed.

SEL Professional Development

Kris Kaufman shared the team will develop an SEL program for the district. Team training session dates have been identified for the 2022/23 school year. Year 1 implementation will be 2023/24 school year.

South West Energy

Dr. Barnes gave an update. Chris Lantz is working on leases. South West Energy would like to provide a Commonwealth Charitable Management Corporation Mobile Oil Learning Unit. Students will work through 6 rotations/124 activities. They can take up to 192 students. Students will receive a workbook called MOLU pass to use while the program is in the school. South West agreed to do both high schools. Principals will be working to set up dates for the 7th and 8th graders. Dr. Barnes believes the students will really enjoy this program and will be a good STEM activity for them.

School Bus Accident Drill

Jess Millard, principal of the Clark Wood Elementary School, noted that the district is working on conducting a School Bus Accident Drill in the CV area. This will involve working with UPMC, and 911. Projected time line for the drill to take place in the summer of 2022.

Building Use Request for Pickle Ball

Jess Millard, principal of the Clark Wood elementary School, noted that he is working on a schedule for the facility use requested by Roy Vargeson to use the gym located in Elkland for pickle ball. Mr. Millard wanted to confirm what category this group should be considered under. After discussion by the Board, it was determined that a revision of the current facility use procedures would need to be done as the Board does not want to charge a facility use fee for this group. The Pickle Ball group will fall under Category 3, and it was agreed to change the wording in 3.3 from "...will be assessed" to "...may be assessed". It was stated the Pickle Ball group will need to provide a certificate of insurance and the district will need to be added as Additional Insured to the certificate.

Open Forum

No one from the public wished to address the board at this time.

Weather Station

Dr. Barnes reported that there will be a simple lease agreement to share at the next board meeting regarding Penn State University installing a weather station tower in the CVHS area. This would consist of a 10' tower, 2x2x2 concrete base. Dr. Barnes will review the exact location and discuss at the next board meeting.

Tioga Township Bridge Replacement

Dr. Barnes noted that the district received a letter from the Tioga Township Supervisors requesting a letter of support from the school district regarding the Lake Street Bridge replacement. It was discussed and was agreed it was appropriate to send a letter in support of this project to them.

Outdoor Learning Space

Christina Fry, principal of R.B. Walter Elementary School, presented the Outdoor Learning Space and requested permission to continue moving forward with the project. Christina stated there will be a meeting in a couple of weeks to request funding from the Kreger Grant.

CVHS Bathrooms and Classroom HVAC Projects

Jeremy Freeman gave the following schedule for the RFP, and stated there are some detail changes and Davis-Bacon wages will need to be included.

Need to advertise RFP by April 1, 2022

RFP's due by April 22, 2022

Building Committee meeting needs to occur to review RFP's. Possibly week of April 11, 2022

Bid Review and recommendations to the Board May 9, 2022

Board Awards at May Board Meeting

Contractors start 2nd week on June 13th (9 1/2 weeks)

Construction complete August 19th

The board adjourned the work session at 7:30 PM.

Kelly Sherman
Board Secretary