

August 19, 2024

NORTHERN TIOGA SCHOOL DISTRICT
110 Ellison Road
Elkland, PA 16920

Minutes – Buildings & Grounds Committee Meeting
August 19, 2024

The Northern Tioga School District Buildings & Grounds Committee met for a committee meeting in the Board Room at 110 Ellison Road, Elkland, PA 16920. The meeting was called to order by Superintendent Kaufman at 6:05 PM.

Board Committee Members in attendance: Greg Cummings, Julie Preston, James Moyer, and Ed Bonham (Via Phone)

Administrators Present: Superintendent Kaufman, Kathy VanSchaick, Daren Bryant, William Butterfield, and Matt Sottolano.

- Athletic Facility Discussion

Committee members reviewed estimated project costs provided by LeChase Construction and Hunt Engineering and discussed if there were possible ways to bring down the total cost of the project which has been estimated to be between \$12 - \$14 million. Possible reductions in cost included combining concession stands with storage, reducing the proposed 8 lane track at Williamson High School to a 6-lane track, cheaper scoreboards, more cost effective bleachers and press boxes, removing the track timing equipment at one high school, and reducing the number of new soccer goals needed.

Possible funding for the project will include district use of fund balances, borrowing, applying for grants, and fundraising. Fundraising could include tasking each athletic group to raise \$5,000.00, contacting local employers for donations, selling pavers to be placed in the new facilities, asking past graduates for donations, and allowing local businesses to purchase advertising space. The goal would be to fund \$2.5 million of the project through grants and fundraising.

A timeline example was also distributed for committee members to review. It was noted that this timeline is only an example that illustrates steps in the process and is not a timeline that must be followed.

Committee members also reviewed a Capital Projects 5-year plan, which was distributed by Daren Bryant, for school years 2024/25 through 2027/28. The plan included cost estimates and /or quotes for multiple projects throughout the district. Kathy noted that projects with quotes total \$1,763,867.00 and projects with estimates total \$4,850,000.00. The overall total of the projects is \$6,613,867.00. She also noted that the roof for the Clark Wood/Administration Complex is under warranty until September 2028, at which time a decision may need to be made to replace the roof. Daren noted that he believed the original estimate to replace this roof was over \$2 million.

August 19, 2024

It was also discussed that PFM Financial Advisors LLC provided the committee with rough estimates at a prior meeting how borrowing would affect the district's current debt service which is set to be paid off in June 2037. Mr. Kaufman and Kathy both noted that they have concerns with the district meeting their future debt obligations with the examples that PFM provided, and that the overall estimated cost of the project needs to be reduced.

Committee members agreed to develop a Request for Proposals (RFP) for an Architect of Record and request full board approval to solicit the RFP at the August 26, 2024, board meeting. This in no way obligates the district to spend funds, but it will provide the district with more accurate costs.

The meeting adjourned at 7:27 PM.

Brittany Mondock
Board Secretary