

**NORTHERN LEHIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT  
TECHNOLOGY/BUILDINGS & GROUNDS  
COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, April 7, 2021**

**5:30 P.M.**

**NLSD Media YouTube Channel**

Committee Members			Meeting Dates		
X	Robin Distler - Chairperson	X	Greg Derr – Liaison	<del>Feb 3</del>	Aug 4
X	Mathias Green -Co-Chairperson	X	Jennifer Butz	<del>March 3</del>	Sept 8
X	Donna Kulp	X	Eric Hill	April 7	Oct 6
X	Robert Kern		Tim Weaber	May 5	Nov 3
X	Matt Link			June 9	

**Also in Attendance:** Mr. Fedorcha, Mrs. Bahnick, Officer Gnas

# MINUTES

## **Buildings & Grounds**

- Transportation RFP bid results
  - Mr. Derr reported that the RFP was published in the newspaper 3 consecutive weeks and advertised as a one year contract with the option to extend it another year. One vendor submitted a proposal, Brandywine Transportation. Their one year proposal is a 6% increase from last year’s budget. They also submitted a 5 year proposal which is a 2% increase for each of the five years. The five year proposal was not an option in the RFP. The proposal has been taken to our attorneys for review and to see what the options are for the district. More information will be provided when it becomes available.

Mr. Green asked if the recommendation is five years if that is legal.

- Mr. Derr said if the attorneys review it and we are able to accept the five year, then yes, it would be the recommendation.
- Snow plow for new dump truck from 20-21 budget Co-Stars pricing from E M Kutz \$7,231 installed
  - Mr. Derr reported that the cost is \$7,231 installed from a Co-Stars vendor for the snow plow. This would be paid out of the B&G current budget.

- Board members on the committee approved the quote to move forward to the 4/12/21 Board agenda.
- Sub Custodial service -SOS Group - School Operations Services located in Phoenixville, PA
  - Mr. Derr reported that the district has tried all avenues to hire substitute custodians and only have 1 or 2 people who work intermittently. Custodians have vacation/personal days to use and with the necessity of cleaning and sanitizing, it's important to have custodians in the buildings. Mr. Derr has discussed it with the staff and business office. The agreement is for one year with the SOS Group. The substitute is an employee of the company and the company would take care of the payroll, the taxes, provide the clearances, physicals, and anything the district requires. There is no cost to enter into the contract. The district only pays for the actual hours worked by the substitute custodian. The cost is \$21/hour with \$15 to the substitute and \$6 to the company's costs. We can still use our in-house substitutes. This would be paid through the ESSERS funds since the cleaning and sanitizing goes along with the NLSD Health & Safety Plan.

Mr. Fedorcha asked if there was anything in the support contract regarding substitutes.

- Mr. Derr commented that there is nothing in the contract that would prohibit the district from the services.

Mr. Kern commented that the fact that Mr. Derr has come to them means there is a great need for this and an essential need as well and he supports it. Mr. Distler agreed with Mr. Kern.

Mr. Green asked if the starting salary for custodians is about \$16/hour.

- Mr. Derr commented that the substitute rate is \$11.25/hour. Mrs. Frantz commented that the starting salary for a full-time custodian is \$15.75/hour.

Mrs. Kulp asked what kind of guarantee or percentage do you think they would be able to get when a substitute is needed.

- Mr. Derr commented that the company said that they could line a substitute up for the district that would be in the area and be able to supply the district with the same substitute for consistency.

- Board members on the committee approved to move the agreement forward to the 4/12/21 Board agenda.

## Technology

- T-Mobile Hotspots
  - 15 Hotspots for 12 months (\$20 per month, \$3,600 Total) - ESSERS grant funds
    - Last year the district ordered 30 Kajeet hotspots that were received in June 2020. The service will be expiring at the end of June 2021.
    - Mr. Hill would like to replace them with 15 hotspots from T-Mobile. The Kajeet usage has declined with returning to 4-day in-person.
  - Board members on the committee approved the quote to move forward to the 4/12/21 Board agenda.
- Emergency Broadband Benefit (EBB) Program
  - \$3.2 Billion - Passed as part of 2020 COVID Relief Bill
  - Provide Internet for low income families
    - District may need to confirm that the families are in the free/reduced lunch program to qualify for the EBB.
  - Part of E-Rate program
  - Details of the program are not finalized
    - The program may be launching soon. More information to follow.
    - It's written at this time to only run an additional six months after the pandemic has ended. There are politicians who are looking to make it a permanent program.

Mr. Link asked if there is any public comment. There were none.

Meeting closed at 5:49 p.m.

**Reminder: Next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 5, 2021.**