



NORTH SLOPE BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT

MEMORANDUM

TO: Qaiyaan Harcharek, President
Members of the School Board

THROUGH: Peggy Cowan, CEO

THROUGH: Linda Saito, Assistant Superintendent

FROM: Mark Roseberry, Coordinator of RLC and Village Secondary Education

DATE: April 24, 2017

SUBJECT: Residential Learning Center

MEMO: (Action Item)

NSBSD Strategic Plan Goal:

1.6 Residential Center: Design, build and open a residential program to provide educational opportunities that are otherwise unavailable.

Issue Summary:

The Residential Learning Center (RLC) Program housing Options.

Background:

In April 2015, the NSBSD Project Review Committee (PRC) reviewed possible sites for housing students during the stay in Barrow for the RLC intensive term and there were over 10 sites considered. During that meeting, the PRC chose a location for the residential facility near Barrow High School and presented to the NSBSD Board. That location was recommended to the NSB Assembly and the RLC project moved forward.

In December 2015, the North Slope Borough School district first completed the residential state application. In that application, the approved site was shared with the state as the location for building a future residential facility. At that time, the board shared concerns about the cost of building a new facility, about the current economic conditions in Alaska and concerns of adding infrastructure in the North Slope Borough.

In the Fall of 2015, Shell had decided to pull out of their off-shore project and this opened up additional commercial buildings in Barrow. In Fall 2016, ASRC approached the NSBSD with a proposal to look at re-purposing a hotel building located in the center of Barrow. They later offered to let the NSBSD lease the building for 30 years at a cost of \$1 per year in addition to construction costs necessary to bring the building to code for housing students under the age of 18.

In October 2016, the school was presented with a change order option to continue receiving funds from the North Slope Borough to move the RLC project forward. At that time, the NSBD board was informed that the administration was pursuing the use of the old Top of the World Hotel as a

residential facility. The board was informed that more information about this alternative housing arrangement would be available at a future board meeting.

In November 2016, the NSBSD Superintendent directed the RLC Coordinator to go through the process with the M & O director and NSB CIPM to get a Project Analysis Report (PAR) completed on the old Top of the World Hotel (TOW). That report was completed in February 2017 and confirmed that the Old TOW was a viable housing option.

In January 2017, the NSB called a tri-lateral meeting with NSB, NSBSD and Iliagvik to discuss the RLC project. At the end of the meeting, after all of the support and concerns were heard, the three entities decided to form a Leadership committee made up of six people; NSB Mayor, Assembly President, NSBSD superintendent, NSBSD board President, Iliagvik President, Iliagvik Board President, Mark Roseberry and Jerry Covey. This team was tasked with discussing concerns and recommending steps to move the RLC project forward. This team was provided a copy of the Old TOW PAR that included housing codes and requirements.

On March 21, 2017, the RLC Leadership Committee met to discuss the relative merits of the Old TOW and Iliagvik College Dorm for housing students attending the RLC. The committee discussed concerns and benefits of each option and agreed to take the options to the NSBSD Board to make a final selection.

The NSBSD board has two choices before them today.

- Recommend the Old Top of the World site through the motion below, or
- Do not recommend the Old Top of the World site and direct the administration to work with the NSB to determine the feasibility of housing students on a wing connected to Iliagvik college.

Motion:

I move that the NSBSD Board of Education recommend to the RLC Leadership Team and NSBSD CIP committee, the old Top of the World site selection for the Residential Learning Center Program.

Motion by _____ Seconded by _____

Advisory Vote _____ Vote _____