

NEAH-KAH-NIE SCHOOL DISTRICT 56

Special Board Meeting 6:30 p.m.

March 16, 2020
Neah-Kah-Nie District Office Board Room

OFFICIAL MINUTES

Present

PRESENT

Board Members

Pat Ryan, Chairman
Carol Mahoney, Vice Chair
Terry Kelly
Michele Aeder (via phone)
Landon Myers
Sandy Tyrer
Kari Fleisher (via phone)

District Office Staff

Paul Erlebach, Superintendent
Mark Sybouts, Business Manager
Kathie Sellars, Administrative Assistant

Call to Order

CALL TO ORDER

Mr. Ryan called to order the Special Board Meeting of the Neah-Kah-Nie School District Board of Directors at 6:29 p.m. Mr. Ryan welcomed staff and patrons of the district. All present stood for the flag salute.

Agenda

AGENDA

2019-20 Annual Calendar Revision

2019-20 Annual
Calendar Revision

Mr. Ryan asked to take care of adding the additional four days to the calendar at the end of the year. Ms. Aeder asked if the addition of these days has an impact on First Student. Ms. Aeder also stated that she is no longer an employee of First Student. Ms. Aeder asked if First Student would be paid for the days they are missing this week, Mr. Sybouts stated that the days missed this week will be swapped to the end of the school year. Discussion occurred.

Mr. Kelly asked if we would be able to discuss graduation tonight. Mr. Ryan stated that right now teachers will be out until the 30th of March, but we do not yet know how long we will be out of school. Mr. Erlebach stated that the administrators will be meeting with their staff beginning the 30th of March to begin planning how to deliver online learning. We will know by March 25th if the closure is extended into April. Ms. Mahoney asked that the calendar indicate that students are not in school March 16th – 20th

Motion to Approve

M-Mahoney/2nd Kelly to approve the adjusted calendar to add four days on at the end of the school year and to reflect that students are not in school March 16-20, 2020. Motion carried unanimously.

Student Investment
Account Grant
Application

Student Investment Account Grant Application (SIA)

Mr. Ryan stated that our next steps are changing or approving the SIA grant application. Mr. Erlebach stated that there are two documents to review. You have the revised SIA grant application and the revised Planning Sheet. He asked Ms. Dills to speak about the changes to the application. Ms. Dills mentioned that they have changed the references to preschool to early learning.

Mr. Erlebach shared that anything to do with early learning has been highlighted in red.

Ms. Dills also mentioned that the English Language Development (ELD) assistant and the middle school/high school Family Resource Coordinator have been split out.

Mr. Erlebach reminded the board that they gave him permission to apply for the Preschool Promise (PP) grant, but if the board decides that they do not want the Preschool Promise funds if we are successful, then those 10 slots (\$110,000) would be given to the other two school districts in the county. Within the SIA, grant application we have provided early learning options for the board to consider.

Mr. Erlebach reviewed the SIA budget.

2020-2021 SIA Planning Sheet		
FTE	SIA Activity	Cost
1 FTE	Early learning licensed teacher	\$ 120,000.00
1 FTE	Early learning classified assistant	\$ 50,000.00
	Early learning startup costs	\$ 3,000.00
1 FTE	Elementary RTIi instructional coach	\$ 120,000.00
1 FTE	Middle school RTIi instructional coach	\$ 120,000.00
2 FTE	2 middle school RTIi instructional assistants (\$50,000 x 2)	\$ 100,000.00
1 FTE	MS/HS family resource coordinator	\$ 50,000.00
1 FTE	High school counselor	\$ 100,000.00
1 FTE	English Language Development instructional assistant/family liaison	\$ 50,000.00
	Total Cost of 2020-21 SIA Menu Items	\$713,000

Mr. Erlebach directed the members to page 11 in the grant application to review Strategy 6 – Expand Pre-K options to include full day. He then directed them to page 2 where the district has provided early learning options.

Early Learning Options

The options are as follows:

- Hire 1 FTE early learning teacher, 1 FTE early learning assistant, along with funding for early learning startup costs to run two preschools with expanded options (minimum half day – 510 hrs/year, ¾ day, full day) one at each elementary school following the school district calendar*
- Hire 1 FTE early learning teacher, 1 FTE early learning assistant, along with funding for early learning startup costs to run two preschools with expanded options (minimum half day – 510 hrs/year, ¾ day, full day) one at district office and one at an elementary school following the school district calendar.*
- Participate in Preschool Promise for 10 slots for approximately \$10,000 per slot to run two full time preschools, one at each elementary school OR one at an elementary school and one at the district office. SIA funding would be needed to hire 1 FTE early learning assistant and support early learning startup costs following the school district calendar.*
- Continue with the status quo preschool model, (2) three hour preschools, with an increase in hours to meet 510 hours/year of state required hours following the school district calendar.*
- Other board options.*

One option is to have a preschool at each elementary school. Mr. Erlebach stated that he feels there is a gap between early learning and Kindergarten. Mr. Kelly asked him to explain. Mr. Erlebach stated there is a gap between PreK and other teachers, access to the schools, school counselors, and PE teachers. The preschool would not be at the district office under option 1.

Ms. Aeder was excited to hear that PreK would be moved out to the elementary schools. She would support this option.

Ms. Fleisher asked if we are required to make a commitment to (PP) in order to submit the SIA grant. Mr. Erlebach stated that we do not. He explained that at the last board meeting the board gave him direction to apply for the funds. If we get the slots and if the board decides that they do not want PP, then the slots would go to Tillamook or Nestucca Valley School District. Tillamook and Nestucca are actively recruiting to fill PP slots.

Mr. Ryan asked if we do PP, then every student in the program follows the same guidelines. Mr. Erlebach stated yes. He was told that there is some flexibility; however, he is not certain of that.

Mr. Kelly asked that in addition to the 10 PP slots, would we pick up the cost for the other portion of the program?

Mr. Myers stated that we are in uncharted territory right now there are so many unknowns. He feels we may be struggling to just get our students through the rest of this year. He does not feel that any money is guaranteed right now.

Mr. Ryan agreed with regard to the unknowns, he also stated that this conversation has been going on for quite a while. He hates to give up the preschool promise dollars, but would be willing to give that up to provided expanded options for parents. He mentioned that every hand in the Hispanic parent meeting went up when asked if they could benefit from all day preschool. He also knows of four different parents at the college that could benefit from all day preschool. If there was a preschool at Nehalem those preschool students would not have to travel to the District Office for preschool. Mr. Ryan asked if we have room at the elementary schools to house preschools. Mr. Erlebach stated that we do.

Mr. Myers asked if we put preschools at both elementary schools, would parents have the option to go part day. Mr. Erlebach stated that they would. Mr. Ryan stated that we would only be locked into a full day if we use PP funds.

Mr. Myers asked Ms. Douma if there are any of the options that she sees as better than another. Ms. Douma stated that she believes giving parent's choice is a good thing. She stated that she would hate to see the preschool space here to not be used, it is as nice as it gets. She also mentioned the need for appropriate staffing, age appropriate space and play structures.

Ms. Fleisher state that she is favoring Option 1, she sees value in having a preschool at the elementary schools, perhaps the district office site could be a PP site in the future.

Ms. Aeder is also in favor of Option 1 in that it provides options for parents. She also mentioned that three year olds cannot ride on the big buses, they would have to be on the smaller buses with the star seats, and parents may need to transport 3-year-old students. She also mentioned that she believes that we need better staffing in the preschool, maybe using high school students. Ms. Douma stated that it is getting harder and harder each year to get TAs in the preschool.

Mr. Kelly stated that he is very reluctant to go with PP because of the requirements that go with that program. He would like to see options for families.

Mr. Ryan stated that he would like to see Option 1, and would like to see the PreK students in the elementary schools. He has crossed of the list PP, status quo and board options. As far as the cost goes, you fund what is important.

Ms. Mahoney likes that we would be giving parents a choice. It would be interesting to see what parents really want, do they want more preschool or not.

Ms. Tyrer asked if when we submit the SIA application, is Preschool Promise is included. Mr. Sybouts explained that they are two separate grants. Ms. Tyrer asked if we have to narrow down the PreK options tonight to approve the SIA grant. Mr. Erlebach stated that yes; we do need to decide which options to complete the SIA grant application.

Mr. Erlebach stated that he recommends that we co-apply with the other two district for PP funds, then if at some point in the future; if we want to use those slots, they are available.

Mr. Kelly state that he is only interested in status quo.

Ms. Tyrer suggested that we combine options 1 and 2 and say sites to be determined. That would give us time to figure out the logistics.

Mr. Ryan stated that what he heard is that we would have two programs by combine options 1 and 2 giving parents option to decide if the child would go ½ day, ¾ day or full day.

Ms. Aeder stated that if the preschools are in the elementary schools the transportation cost would not go up, but if you are keeping a site at the district office and one at Nehalem, then there would be additional costs because of a mid-day run.

Mr. Ryan asked if there was anyone interested in considering the Preschool Promise program. All agreed not at this time.

The board shared the opinion on the options presented:

Status quo – Mr. Kelly and Mr. Myers were in favor of this option.

Combining options 1 and 2: Ms. Aeder, Fleisher and Tyrer would be in favor of this option.

Board option – Ms. Mahoney is in favor of this option with sites to be determined. Mr. Kelly could support that if we could keep the district office site.

By consensus the board agreed to Option 2, with the sites to be determined.

M-Mahoney/2nd Fleisher to approve the Neah-Kah-Nie School District SIA application including early learning, combining options 1 and 2, hiring a 1 FTE teacher, 1 FTE assistant along with funding for early learning startup costs to run two preschools with expanded options; minimum half day, ¾ day or full day with sites to be determined. Motion approved by a vote of six yes (Kelly, Ryan, Mahoney Tyrer, Aeder, Fleisher; with Mr. Myers voting no). The motion carried six to one.

Motion to Approve
Student Investment
Account Grant
Application

ADJOURN

Hearing nothing more to come before the board the meeting was adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

Adjourn