SELINSGROVE — Warrior Run High School senior Morgan Reynolds was at a bit nervous when his name was first called to appear on stage during Thursday’s Union Snyder Transition Conference, held at Susquehanna University.

But Reynolds didn’t let his nerves get the best of him, and was quite relaxed after being presented with the 2019 Dr. Cynthia Schloss Transition Education Award.

The award is presented each year, in memory of Schloss, to a student from a particular district in the Central Susquehanna Intermediate Unit (CSIU) who demonstrates a strong personal work ethic and is committed to preparation for adult life.

Schloss was a member of the Columbia-Montour Transition Coordination Council who recognized the potential for all students to succeed, even when facing challenges or limitations.

Although he realized he was nominated for the award, Reynolds didn’t think he’d receive it. “I was a bit nervous, but it wasn’t that bad,” he said, of being called on stage to accept.

Reynolds said the award has given him a further desire to succeed. “It makes me want to try harder,” he said. “It’s amazing what you can do just by trying.”

Cathy Grow, Warrior Run’s Transition coordinator, nominated Reynolds for the award. She noted that each district participating in the conference nominates one student for the award.

“She and Reynolds both enjoyed a session they attended titled ‘Adulting 101,’ which focused on the importance of financial responsibility. “I just got a junior credit card,” Blyler said. “(What I learned) can help with my credit score.”

Both Grow and Marissa Jacobs, Milton’s Transition coordinator, said the conference is a good learning opportunity for students. Fifteen from Milton attended, while 12 from Warrior Run were present.

“When the get to learn a little about life after high school, the employment skills (they’ll need),” Jacobs said.

In addition to Reynolds, other students nominated for the 2019 Dr. Cynthia Schloss Transition Education Award.

Ryan Spert, a Warrior Run Middle School seventh grader, enjoyed shoofly pie on National Pi Day.

Students and staff from the Milton and Warrior Run high schools were among those in attendance at the Union Snyder Transition Conference. From left, Milton student Isobel Blyler and Transition Coordinator Marissa Jacobs, along with Warrior Run Transition Coordinator Cathy Grow and student Morgan Reynolds.

Pi

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Educators often claim its discovery heralded a spirit of science and inquiry in modern times.

Brett Stamm, learning support and health teacher, introduced two videos which explained how the number was discovered and how it is used to this day. He noted it is an irrational number, meaning the formula continues infinitely and without repetition.

“It’s like the Pythagorean theorem, the same sort of thing,” Stamm said. “The Greeks and the ancient people were so astute mathematicians that they came up with this stuff. Three diameters plus that 0.14 is true for all circles, that same relationship exists.”

Students were given word problems using 3.14 in the solution. For correct answers entitled the student to a slice of Country Cupboard pie.

One problem asked students to determine the price per square inch of a $12.55 apple pie if it had a diameter of 12 inches. A separate problem asked students to determine how much ribbon a homemaker would need to put a decoration around a pie plate 13 inches across.

Stamm said some people have memorized the irrational number to many thousands of places, but he would rather eat pie. To that end, he contacted Country Cupboard to ask if pies could be supplied for the special day. They agreed and were glad to support the novel educational effort.

Country Cupboard contributed apple, cherry, blueberry and shoofly pies for Pi Day. Apple and cherry were the most popular, Stamm observed, but shoofly had a strong following.

Pi Day was the brainchild of a San Francisco area physicist who acknowledged the famous formula in 1988 with a circular march among hordes of fruit pies.

Congress designated March 14 as Pi Day in 2009.

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LASD

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Four contracts were approved pending legally acceptable clearances and included Vaji as boys lacrosse head coach ($5,460), Bailey as boys lacrosse assistant coach ($1,211), shared contract), Eric Martin, boys lacrosse assistant coach ($1,211, shared contract) and John Field, high school softball assistant coach ($1,230.50, shared contract).

The moves followed week of speculation after news surfaced of anonymous letters sent to board members, administrators and student-athletes. Neither the nature nor the frequency of the letters was revealed, though an open reply issued two weeks ago and signed by the board and superintendent indicated a recently hired coach had resigned over the situation.

Dr. Steven C. Skalka, LASD superintendent, said Thursday night reiterated it was not district policy to comment on personnel matters.

Directors approved a package of bids totaling $876,777 for the Kelly Elementary School slab renovation project. It included individual bids to Hecox ($487,127, general contracting), Silvertop ($150,000, plumbing), Howard Company ($27,800, electrical) and ERI ($921,850, kitchen). Shifting soils under a portion of the Kelly gym and cafeteria attracted the board’s attention in 2017. Initial estimates, and scope of work considered, were higher.

Skalka admitted the project was costly, but estimates were only about $2,100 from the actual bids. It was a positive outcome considering the small number of bidders who responded.

Directors also approved a $48,345 bid for a new dishwasher at Kelly and a $636,500 bid for the second phase of athletic field preparation including what will become the Brandon Kramm Memorial Baseball Field.

Kathy Swope, director and board president, was absent from the board meeting for a personal matter. Director Jordan Feterz, board vice president, chaired the meeting.

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