Thousand Islands Central School District Board of Education Meeting Tuesday, March 21, 2023, 6:00 p.m.

AGENDA

I. Call to Order

II. Pledge of Allegiance

III. Presentation

- 1. Justin Taylor- First Responder Tax Exemption
- 2. Angela Picunas- Budget Report

IV. Business, Finance, and Property

- 1. Approve Minutes of February 14, 2023 meeting enclosure.
- 2. Approve Property Tax Cap of 3.34 % for the 2023-2024 school year- enclosure.
- 3. Approve contract for Health and Welfare Services between Watertown CSD and TICSD for students attending parochial schools- enclosure.
- 4. Approve Cooperative Purchasing Agreement between Oswego County BOCES and TICSD- enclosure.
- 5. Acknowledge receipt of Warrants- folder.
- 6. Approve Resolution Authorizing Partial Settlement of Vaping Litigation (enclosure): WHEREAS, in recent years the use and abuse of e-cigarettes and vaping devices increased dramatically among high school and middle school students, leading to significant risks of addiction and potentially life-threatening respiratory ailments; and WHEREAS, students attending the Thousand Islands Central School District (the "School District") have not been immune to this phenomenon with the School District observing students using e-cigarettes and vaping devices in school and on school grounds; and WHEREAS, the use of e-cigarettes and vaping devices by students has caused the School District to incur costs in the form of staff time, disciplinary proceedings, and other costs, with the expectation that these costs will only increase unless and until student use of these devices decreases and stops; and

WHEREAS, the School District authorized the law firms of Ferrara Fiorenza PC, and the Frantz Law Group, APLC, to initiate litigation against Juul Labs, Inc. and other parties by board resolution relating to the production, marketing, sale, and distribution of e-cigarettes and vaping devices; and

WHEREAS, the litigation involved more than 1400 U.S. public school districts across more than 25 states; and

WHEREAS, a tentative settlement has been reached with Defendant Juul Labs, Inc. and certain individual board members, directors, executives and parties with whom Juul Labs, Inc. has indemnity agreements; and

WHEREAS, litigation against Altria and remaining defendants will continue; and WHEREAS, partial settlement means the School District would forever release all claims against Juul Labs and the other released entities; and

WHEREAS, in return, the School District would receive certain cash payments; and WHEREAS, the amount that the School District receives will be based on a final allocation framework recommended by the court-appointed Special Master Thomas Petrelli with the allocation framework for all governmental entities including factors such as population and litigation risk and be no less than \$18,348 for the School District; and WHEREAS, an initial payment of approximately 54% of the settlement amount is anticipated to be paid by late 2023; and

WHEREAS, the remaining payments will be made in four installments anticipated in late 2023, 2024, 2025 and 2026; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education (the "Board") has determined it is necessary,



advantageous, desirable, and in the public interest and the best interests of the School District that it settle this litigation against Juul Labs, Inc. and continue the litigation against remaining other parties involved with e-cigarettes and vaping devices.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Education of the School District, as follows:

- 1. The Board authorizes the partial settlement of the vaping lawsuit against defendant Juul Labs, Inc. and certain individual board members, directors, executives and parties with whom Juul Labs, Inc. has indemnity agreements.
- 2. A Settlement with the substantive terms contained herein is hereby approved in substantially the form reviewed by the Board and together with such minor modifications as are deemed necessary by the School District's attorneys and administrators to protect the best interests of the School District.
- 3. The Board President, Superintendent and their designee(s) are hereby authorized to finalize, sign and enter into the Settlement Agreement on behalf of the School District and take all actions and execute all documents necessary or appropriate to carry out the intent of this Resolution.
- 3. This Resolution shall take effect immediately.

V. Personnel – Mr. Bashaw recommends approval of the following:

- 1. **Dorene Dickerson** Resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective July 5, 2023- enclosure.
- 2. **Elizabeth Mason** Resignation for the purpose of retirement, effective June 30, 2023 enclosure.
- 3. **Taylor Kieffer-** Physical Education/Health, Advance on Teacher Salary Schedule to B24 Step 2, effective March 6, 2023.
- 4. **Mikael Ann Melfi-** Secondary Science, Advance on Teacher Salary Schedule to B6 Step 1, effective January 23, 2023.
- 5. **Elizabeth Slack-Joles-** Appointment as .62 FTE Math Teacher, in the tenure area of Math, at a salary of M30 Step 33, with benefits consistent with the TIEA contract, effective March 13, 2023 through June 30, 2023- enclosure.
- 6. **Kasey Pitkin-** Appointment as Account Clerk/Typist, at a rate of \$20.73/hr., 8 hours per day (excluding lunch), with benefits consistent with Supervisory and Confidential Personnel, with a 52-week probationary period, effective March 21, 2023- enclosure.
- 7. **Matthew Jobson** Appointment as Substitute Help Desk Operator, at a rate of \$27 per hour, retroactive to February 27, 2023– enclosure.
- 8. Appointment for the following 2022-2023 Spring Sports;

Baseball	Modified Head Coach:	Brian Coombs	1
	Volunteer Assistant:	Geoff Peters	
Lacrosse	Modified Head Coach:	William Solar II	1
	Volunteer Assistants:	Michael Fox	
		Chris Symenow	
Softball	Volunteer Assistants:	Jim Webb	
		Eric Swenson	

9. Acknowledge receipt of criminal clearance from the New York State Education Department for the following individuals: Garrett Cipullo, Matthew Jobson, and Elizabeth Slack-Joles – enclosures.

VI. Superintendent's Report

- 1. AED Grant
- 2. Bus Software

VII. Students and Programs

1. Recommendation by Committee on Special Education- enclosures.

VIII. Adjournment