

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Regular Meeting
January 8, 2025

Present: Mrs. Cathi Root, President
Mrs. Pamela Zwierlein, Vice-President
Mr. Aaron Lounsbury, Member
Mr. Gregory Schweiger, Member
Mr. Robert Seymour, Member
Mrs. Lee Wood, Member

Adm./Others: Mr. Joshua Roe, Superintendent
Mrs. Mary Grace Camin, MS Principal
Mrs. Michelle Bombard, ES Principal
Mr. Michael Williams, Director of CSE
Mr. James Wood, Interim HS Principal
Mrs. Kendra Seaver, Business Executive
Mrs. Kristy Robertson, Clerk

Others:

Absent: Mr. Scot Taylor, Member

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mrs. Root called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

2. PLEDGE TO THE FLAG

3. VOICE OF THE PUBLIC

4. CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES

A MOTION was made by Gregory Schweiger, seconded by Aaron Lounsbury, and carried by a vote of 6-0 to approve the December 18, 2024, Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

5. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

The next Legislative Committee meeting will be on Thursday, January 16, 2025, at 6:00pm.

There was nothing to report for Health Trust Consortium, Workers' Compensation Alliance, other board reports, events, or updates.

Mrs. Camin reported that the Middle School enjoyed having the elementary students in the building for their holiday concert; since returning from break, everyone is back to work and it has been a good start to the new year; NYS testing for 5th, 6th, and 8th grades will be computer-based, this month there will be a simulation test for each of the grades to become familiar with the computer-based tests; the extremely cold temperatures have made it necessary to have indoor recess the last couple of days.

Mrs. Bombard reported that NYS testing for 4th grade will be computer-based for the first time this year, conference day plans have been made for 4th grade teachers to meet with Mr. Roe for an overview of computer-based testing, to have a question-and-answer session with the 5th grade teachers who used computer-based testing last year, and a training session with BOCES; several parent/teacher conferences have been scheduled for the upcoming conference day; plans are being finalized for this year's book fair and reading night that will be held at the end of February; due to the cold temperatures, recess has been held indoors the last couple days to keep our little tigers safe.

Mr. Williams reported that a lot of final paperwork was finished over the break to close out meetings that were held prior to break; the CSE department has been very busy since being back from break with meetings; in an effort to share professional development information, our speech and occupational therapists were put in touch with Whitney Point's speech and occupational therapists to discuss conference and training ideas.

Mr. Wood reported that the start of using Yondr pouches has been good, there have been a few hiccups but most of the feedback has been positive especially from staff; thank you to Mr. Shay for getting our digital signage software up and running; Regents testing will begin on January 21st and run through January 24th; a big thank you to our staff and coaches stepping up and volunteering their time in a number of athletic coordinator roles including the IAC, Section IV, and NY State Levels.

Mr. Gregory Schweiger asked if the Yondr parent presentation was well attended.

Mr. James Wood replied that six people attended the presentation, mostly staff member and that no concerns were brought up, they were just looking for more information.

Mr. Roe reported that the implementation of Yondr pouches has been smooth thanks to Jim Wood, the teachers, and all of the preparation done ahead of time, only two pouches have been damaged so far and parents were sent an invoice for the cost of the pouch; a big thank you to our high school students for going through the process and trying something new with the Yondr pouches; Eric Shay and Nick Aiello are working on getting the software that is broadcasting public relations to televisions throughout the district, to also feed to the district Facebook page; the ability to send text messages through the school messenger system is close to being up and running; every two years the district must report civil rights data, that report is

94% complete and is due in March; the high school scoreboard stopped working, the controller was sent out to be repaired and the portable scoreboard is being used temporarily, the two new scoreboards that are being installed as part of the Turf Project Phase II have been ordered.

6. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A MOTION was made by Pamela Zwierlein seconded by Lee Wood, and carried by a vote of 6-0 to approve the Old/New Business Consent Agenda as follows:

Approval of the Emergency Project and SEQRA Type II resolutions as follows:

WHEREAS, the Tioga Central School District's Architect, King & King Architects, has determined that the boilers at the bus garage have failed, causing lack of heat, unreliable transportation, and potential plumbing failures and requires immediate action which cannot await competitive bidding,

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has received and considered the report of its Architects regarding the necessity for the immediate replacement of the boilers, burners, and plumbing at the bus garage and any related site remediation; and

WHEREAS, the Emergency Project work is required to preserve the health and safety of the students and staff and for protection of the District's property; and

WHEREAS, the District's Architect and Engineer has opined that this scope of work is a Type II SEQRA action.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED as follows:

- 1. The Board has determined that the emergency replacement of the boilers, burners, and plumbing system is a Type II Action under the regulations of the State Environmental Quality Review Act, requiring no further review.*
- 2. That pursuant to § 103 (4) of the General Municipal Law, the Board of Education declares that an emergency exists because the heating system has failed and is causing a safety situation at the school building. The damage affects safety and property of the District, its employees and students, and requires immediate action which cannot await competitive bidding. The Board finds that the proposed repairs, remediation, preservation, and replacement of property of the District must be undertaken without delay. The Board further finds that such work is necessary for the protection and safety of students, employees and the property of the District.*
- 3. The maximum estimated cost of the Emergency Project as determined by the School District's Architect, is approximately \$300,000. The funding source for the project will be the General Fund balance, potential proceeds from prior construction warranties and insurance claims, and to the maximum extent possible, State building aid. The Board further authorizes the awarding of*

contracts and the purchasing for this work, without competitive bidding, and such work to commence immediately.

4. *The Superintendent of Schools and all officers and employees of the District are hereby authorized and directed to take all steps reasonably necessary or appropriate to complete the Emergency Project and to carry out the intent of this Resolution and to apply for any eligible State building aid and to recover any available insurance proceeds.*

5. *This Resolution shall take effect immediately.*

King & King, Architects, selected by the Tioga Central School District has recommended to the Board of Education that the Board determine that the emergency heating system replacement project is a Type II action as that term is defined in the State Environmental Quality Review Act and will not have a significant impact on the environment. The project is therefore not subject to further review under SEQRA.

RESOLVED that the Tioga Central School District Board of Education acting as lead agency for purposes of the State Environmental Quality Review Act and Regulations and upon the recommendation of the School District's architect hereby determines that the emergency heating system replacement project is Type II action which will not have a significant impact on the environment and is not subject to further review under the State Environmental Quality Review Act.

Approval of the Change Order Request for the 2021 Capital Improvement Project- Phase II- District Wide in the amount of \$22,220.

Approval of the Change Order Request for the 2021 Capital Improvement Project- Phase II-District Wide in the amount of \$29,688.

7. FINANCIAL

8. PERSONNEL

A MOTION was made by Aaron Lounsbury, seconded by Lee Wood, and carried by a vote of 6-0, to approve Personnel Agenda Item A as follows:

Approval of the following probationary appointment(s):

Name of Appointee: Rebecca Kithcart

Civil Service Position: Accounting Associate I

Probationary Service Begins: April 28, 2025

Expiration Date of Probationary Appointment: April 27, 2026

9. VOICE OF THE PUBLIC

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A MOTION was made by Gregory Schweiger, seconded by Aaron Lounsbury and carried by a vote of 6-0 to enter executive session at 6:33pm to discuss CSE/CPSE/504 matters, and the employment history of a particular person or persons leading to the appointment of a particular person or persons.

A MOTION was made by Pamela Zwierlein, seconded by Gregory Schweiger, and carried by a vote of 6-0 to approve CSE/CPSE/504 Recommendations.

A MOTION was made by Robert Seymour, seconded by Gregory Schweiger, and carried by a vote of 6-0 to return to public session at 7:16pm.

11. ADJOURN

A MOTION was made by Lee Wood, seconded by Robert Seymour and carried by a vote of 6-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:16pm.

Kristy Robertson
Clerk