

BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Regular Meeting
November 1, 2023

Present: Mrs. Cathi Root, President
Mrs. Pamela Zwierlein, Vice-President
Mr. Aaron Lounsbury, Member
Mr. Gregory Schweiger, Member
Mr. Joshua Whitmore, Member arrived at 6:02pm
Mrs. Lee Wood, Member

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

Absent: Mr. Aaron Lounsbury, Member
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 Lee Wood, seconded by Gregory Schweiger, and carried by a vote of 4-0 to approve the October 18, 2023, Regular Board Meeting Minutes.

5. REPORTS/PRESENTATIONS

The next Legislative meeting will be held on January 18, 2024

Mr. Joshua Whitmore, Member arrived at 6:02pm

Mr. Gregory Schweiger and Mrs. Kendra Seaver attended the Health Trust Consortium meeting held on October 20th. Mr. Schweiger reported that the main discussion at the meeting revolved around a large increase in the Medicare Advantage Plan rates. Mrs. Seaver elaborated on the increase and stated that the rates went up 50% and very little notice was given about the rate hike, leaving participating districts with little time to adjust or look for alternatives. She also noted that there is no impact to Tioga, our Medicare-eligible retirees remain on our plan with a

subsidy from CMS that helps offset the cost of prescriptions. If districts who switched to the Medicaid Advantage Plan start to pull out because of the rate hike, Excellus plans to bill the remaining districts in the plan for the costs they are trying to recoup. Mrs. Seaver again mentioned that this has no impact on Tioga as we did not move any of our retirees to the Medicare Advantage Plan. Mr. Schweiger also reported that DCMO BOCES joined the Consortium.

The first Workers' Compensation Alliance meeting will be held on November 3rd. Mrs. Cathi Root and Mrs. Kendra Seaver will be attending.

There was nothing to report for other board reports, events, or updates.

Mr. Cook reported that 7th and 8th graders are working hard to complete work before report cards go home; on Saturday, members of Student Council went to Destiny USA in Syracuse where they had fun in the escape rooms at 5 Wits and had lunch at Johnny Rockets, the Pascuzzo fund paid for lunch; fall sports have wrapped up for the season and winter sports have just started; AP Science students went on a field trip to Taughannock Falls where they could apparently see the earth.

Mrs. Camin reported that she met with second year teachers last week who reported that they feel more comfortable this year and less in survival mode; she also met with the mentors of the second-year teachers and provided them with an outline to consider and discuss with their mentees; comparative state testing data will be out in December and will be shared once it is compiled.

Mrs. Bombard thanked Abbie Macumber and Jenn Parker for bringing in Jared Campbell and including all the buildings in his performances. She also reported that Kindergarten went to Stoughton Farms, the kids had a great time, and no little people were lost in the Dinosaur Corn Maze; the annual costume parade was held last Friday, staff and students had a great time dressing up; next week, student of concern meetings will be held to assess and adjust the extra support our students may need; Mrs. Cindy Middendorf, a veteran teacher who taught Kindergarten for 27 years, spent some time shadowing the PreK classes and offered insight into how the learning needs of the students have changed over the years and new strategies to help our littlest learners; Tyler Roe and Sadie Parker from National Honor Society proposed the start of big brother/big sister program that would pair up members of National Honor Society with elementary students to help create positive school experiences, Elementary teachers met in grade level teams to help identify students that would benefit most from this program.

Mr. Wood reported that the High School students attended a session of Jared Campbell's assembly; on October 24th members of National Honor Society partnered with the Nichols-Tioga Lions Club to offer assistance to senior citizens in the community with navigating cell phone technology; thank you to Amanda Bailey for make senior night memorable for the senior football players; fall sports are starting to wind down with the end of the regular season; winter sports numbers are looking good.

Mr. Roe reported that last Wednesday he met with all of the contractors, architects, and engineers to do an onsite walk through of the projects planned for the coming summer including the Middle School gym, High School kitchen, and the remaining portion of the roof; this meeting was very beneficial in getting all parties on the same page and off to a good start, going forward this should be done before every project; there will be a CSO retreat at Cornell on Sunday, 11/12 through Monday, 11/13 that he will be attending; currently there are two agencies working on bus feasibility studies, initial reports show that 13 of the 15 regular bus runs would be able to be completed daily without having to charge the battery between the am and pm runs, the runs to BOCES and sports trip will be a challenge; the solar feasibility study is complete and showed that it is not feasible for the district at this time due to NYSEG utility interconnection issues, the substation that feeds the district has no solar hosting capacity and there is a long list of proposed projects waiting in queue before this would be addressed.

Mr. Roe also gave a grant status update, the CRRSA grant is fully spent; the ARP ESSER III grant, State Learning Loss grant, State Extended School Day grant, and State Summer grant have a combined remaining balance of roughly \$400,000, the administration team is meeting with their faculty to assess areas that need further funding.

6. OLD/NEW BUSINESS

A MOTION was made by Pamela Zwierlein, seconded by Gregory Schweiger, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve the Old/New Business Agenda as follows:

Approval of the board resolution pertaining to the Unit Cost Methodology for BOCES 2024-2025 Services

7. FINANCIAL

A MOTION was made by Gregory Schweiger, seconded by Joshua Whitmore, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve the Financial Agenda as follows:

Approval of the following Bus Bond Resolution:

BOND RESOLUTION DATED NOVEMBER 1, 2023.

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF not exceeding \$344,000 BONDS OF TIOGA CENTRAL SCHOOL DISTRICT, TIOGA COUNTY, NEW YORK, TO PAY THE COST OF THE purchase of 2 SCHOOL BUSES FOR SAID SCHOOL DISTRICT.

WHEREAS, the capital project hereinafter described, as proposed, has been determined to be a Type II Action pursuant to the regulations of the New York State Department of Environmental Conservation promulgated pursuant to the State Environmental Quality Review Act, which regulations state that Type II Actions will not have any significant adverse impact on the environment; and WHEREAS, at the Annual District Meeting of the qualified voters of Tioga Central School District, Tioga County, New York (the "School District"), held on May 16, 2023, a proposition was duly adopted authorizing the Board of Education of said School District to undertake the purchase two (2) school buses, including incidental expenses in connection therewith, at a maximum estimated cost of \$344,000, such proposition providing for the levy of a tax therefor to be collected in installments, with not to exceed \$344,000 obligations of said School District to be issued in anticipation thereof; and

WHEREAS, it is now desired to provide for the authorization of such purpose and for the financing thereof; NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the affirmative vote of not less than two-thirds of the total voting strength of the Board of Education of Tioga Central School District, Tioga County, New York, as follows:

Section 1. The purchase of two (2) 65-70 passenger school buses, including incidental expenses in connection therewith, at a maximum estimated cost of not exceeding \$344,000 for the Tioga Central School District, Tioga County, New York, is hereby authorized.

Section 2. The plan for the financing of the aforesaid maximum estimated cost shall be by the issuance of not to exceed \$344,000 bonds of said School District hereby authorized to be issued therefor, pursuant to the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 3. It is hereby determined that the period of probable usefulness of the aforesaid class of objects or purposes is five (5) years, pursuant to subdivision 29 of paragraph a of Section 11.00 of the Local Finance Law.

Section 4. The faith and credit of said Tioga Central School District, Tioga County, New York, are hereby irrevocably pledged for the payment of the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same respectively become due and payable. An annual appropriation shall be made in each year sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds becoming due and payable in such year. There shall annually be levied on all the taxable real property of said School District, a tax sufficient to pay the principal of and interest on such bonds as the same become due and payable.

Section 5. Subject to the provisions of the Local Finance Law, the power to authorize the issuance of and to sell bond anticipation notes in anticipation of the issuance and sale of the bonds herein authorized, including renewals of such notes, is hereby delegated to the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer. Such notes shall be of such terms, form and contents, and shall be sold in such manner, as may be prescribed by said President of the Board of Education, consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 6. All other matters except as provided herein relating to the bonds herein authorized including the date, denominations, maturities and interest payment dates, within the limitations prescribed herein and the manner of execution of the same, including the consolidation with other issues, and also the ability to issue bonds with substantially level or declining annual debt service, shall be determined by the President of the Board of Education, the chief fiscal officer of such School District. Such bonds shall contain substantially the recital of validity clause provided for in Section 52.00 of the Local Finance Law, and shall otherwise be in such form and contain such recitals, in addition to those required by Section 51.00 of the Local Finance Law, as the President of the Board of Education shall determine consistent with the provisions of the Local Finance Law.

Section 7. The validity of such bonds and bond anticipation notes may be contested only if:

- 1) Such obligations are authorized for an object or purpose for which said School District is not authorized to expend money, or
- 2) The provisions of law which should be complied with as of the date of publication of this resolution are not substantially complied with, and an action, suit or proceeding contesting such validity is commenced within twenty days after the date of such publication, or

3) Such obligations are authorized in violation of the provisions of the Constitution.

Section 8. This resolution shall constitute a statement of official intent for purposes of Treasury Regulations Section 1.150-2. Other than as specified in this resolution, no monies are, or are reasonably expected to be, reserved, allocated on a long-term basis, or otherwise set aside with respect to the permanent funding of the object or purpose described herein.

Section 9. This resolution, which takes effect immediately, shall be published in summary form in the official newspaper of said School District for such purpose, together with a notice of the School District Clerk substantially in the form provided in Section 81.00 of the Local Finance Law.

8. PERSONNEL

A MOTION was made by Lee Wood, seconded by Pamela Zwierlein, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve the Personnel Consent Agenda as follows:

Approval of the letter received from Alyssa Mosher resigning her position of Monitor, effective October 27, 2023

Approval of the following addition to the volunteer list:

Brandon MacWhinnie- Wrestling

Approval of the following addition(s) to the substitute list(s):

Sky Romano- Instructional Staff

Alyssa Mosher- Instructional Staff and Support Staff (Monitor)

9. VOICE OF THE PUBLIC

10. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A MOTION was made by Joshua Whitmore, seconded by Gregory Schweiger, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to enter executive session at 6:34pm 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 Gregory Schweiger, seconded by Lee Wood, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to approve CSE/CPSE/504 Recommendations.

A MOTION was made by Joshua Whitmore, seconded by Gregory Schweiger, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to return to public session at 7:52pm.

11. ADJOURN

A MOTION was made by Lee Wood, seconded by Pamela Zwierlein, and carried by a vote of 5-0 to adjourn the meeting at 7:53pm.

Kristy Robertson
Clerk