

DATE: September 19, 2023

KIND OF MEETING: Regular

MEMBERS PRESENT: Stephanie Randall, Joel Sanford, Brian Chaffee

MEMBERS ABSENT: Joe Castrechino

OTHERS PRESENT: Kory Bay, Superintendent, Erin Peck, PK-12 Principal, Kelley Louthan, Assistant Principal, Roxanne Elward, District Clerk, Sarah Peck & Sophia Uczen, Teacher Representatives, Russell & Elise Underhill, Public

CALL TO ORDER: President Sanford called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

President Sanford, in accordance with New York State Fire Code regulations, read the public notice regarding fire exits and the leaving of the room 301 should an emergency occur during the meeting.

The pledge to the flag was given.

REGULAR MEETING:

SWEARING IN OF NEW BOARD MEMBER- Brian Chaffee

APPROVAL OF RECOMMENDED ACTIONS: Stephanie Randall made a motion, seconded by Brian Chaffee that the Board approve the following recommended actions:

- Minutes of the regular board meeting held on August 29, 2023
- Claims Auditor's Report for the month of September 2023
- Extra Classroom Activity Report for the months of July and August 2023

Motion was carried by all members present.

ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS:

Ms. Peck reviewed her PK-12 Principal's Report and Athletic Report

Mr. Louthan reported updates on After School Club and a new program (Viking Values)

Mr. Bay reviewed the CSE/Curriculum Report and his Superintendent's Report

DISCUSSION:

- Hats and Head Wear
- Student Code of Conduct
- Vaping Litigation

RECOMMENDATIONS:

VAPING SETTLEMENT: Stephanie Randall made a motion, seconded by Brian Chaffee that the Board approve the Vaping Settlement Resolution as stated below:

**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 Prattsburgh 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 Altria Group, Inc. and Philip Morris USA, Inc., Altria Client Services LLC, Altria Enterprises LLC, and Altria Group Distribution Company (collectively "Altria") by board resolution relating to the production, marketing, sale, and distribution of e-cigarettes and vaping devices; and

**WHEREAS**, a tentative settlement has been reached with Defendant Altria whereby in return for discontinuing the litigation, the School District would receive certain cash payment; and

**WHEREAS**, the amount that the School District receives will be no less than \$2,524  
; 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 Altria.

**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 Altria.
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.

4. This resolution shall take effect immediately.

Motion was carried by all members present.

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Stephanie Randall made a motion, seconded by Brian Chaffee that the Board goes into Executive Session at 6:21 p.m. for CSE Recommendations, Personnel (substitutes, student workers, yearbook advisors), and Student Placement Issue. Motion was carried by all members present.

Stephanie Randall made a motion, seconded by Brian Chaffee that the Board comes out of Executive Session at 6:50 p.m. Motion carried by all members present.

President Sanford asked if there was any more discussion needed.

#### OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

RECOMMENDATION BY THE CSE: Stephanie Randall made a motion seconded by Brian Chaffee that the Board has no objections to the recommendations of the Committee on Special Education and approves the authorization of funds to implement the special education programs and services consistent with such recommendations. Motion was carried by all members present.

SUBSTITUTES: Stephanie Randall made a motion, seconded by Brian Chaffee that the Board approve the addition of Sherry Hicks of Prattsburgh and Laura Wixom of Naples to the 2023/2024 Substitute Instructional/ Non- Instructional List. Motion was carried by all members present.

YEARBOOK ADVISORS: Stephanie Randall made a motion, seconded by Brian Chaffee that the Board appoint Elizabeth Baxter and George Burd as Yearbook Advisors for the 2023-2024 school year. Motion was carried by all members present.

STUDENT WORKERS: Stephanie Randall made a motion, seconded by Brian Chaffee that the Board appoint the student workers listed below. These workers will be scheduled in accordance to the NYS Department of Labor Guidelines.

Caroline Beecher	Patrick Cornell	D'Mariannah Hinson-Pike
Joy Taylor	Benjamin Wiser	

Motion was carried by all members present.

President Sanford asked if there was any further discussion before adjourning the meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: Stephanie Randall made a motion, seconded by Brian Chaffee that the Board adjourns their regular meeting at 6:53 p.m. Motion carried by all members present.

Roxanne G. Elward  
District Clerk