

MEMORANDUM
OFFICE OF DISTRICT CLERK

TO: Board of Education
FROM: Kate Canini
SUBJ: Addendum to Agenda
DATE: November 3, 2022

Please add the following requests/changes to the Board Agenda for tonight's meeting:

VIII. New Business:

C. ACTION
Recommend the Board approve the following resolution:

WHEREAS, on November 29, 2021, New York State Commissioner of Education Dr. Betty A. Rosa ("Commissioner") issued a Decision and Order in which she ordered that Cambridge Central School District ("District") to "eliminate the use of its former team name [Indians], mascot and logo" by July 1, 2022; and

WHEREAS, on June 22, 2022, Acting New York State Supreme Court Justice Sara W. McGinty issued an Amended Decision/Order/Judgment wherein she affirmed the Commissioner's November 29, 2021 Decision and Order; and

WHEREAS, the High School Gymnasium floor bears a reference to the District's "Indians" nickname that the District is required to eliminate pursuant to the Commissioner's Order; and

WHEREAS, the condition of the High School Gymnasium floor is otherwise considered to be in excellent and would otherwise not require any refinishing, refurbishment, or repair for some time; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an estimate the District received the cost of refinishing the High School Gymnasium floor to ensure the District's compliance with the Commissioner's Decision and Order is approximately \$62,000.00, an expense that the District had not planned or budgeted for; and

WHEREAS, in order to comply with the Commissioner's Decision and Order, the District must undertake the refinishing the repainting of the High School Gymnasium floor to "eliminate" the use of the "Indians" nickname; and

WHEREAS, the Commissioner is seeking the immediate removal of the "Indians" nickname from the gymnasium floor in compliance with her Decision and Order.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THIS BOARD OF EDUCATION AS FOLLOWS:

1. The Board of Education hereby determines that the refinishing of the High School Gymnasium floor, which is otherwise in excellent condition, is an emergency that is necessary in order to comply with the Decision and Order of the Commissioner that the District “eliminate the use of its former team name, mascot, and logo.”
2. The Superintendent of Schools is hereby authorized to file any necessary and proper paperwork with the State Education Department to proceed with the emergency refinishing of the High School Gymnasium floor.
3. The Superintendent of Schools, the School Business Administrator, the District’s Legal Counsel, and the District’s Architecture Firm are hereby authorized to immediately prepare bid specifications or in accordance with Board policy and New York General Municipal Law, if applicable, and proceed with competition if the refinishing of the High School Gymnasium floor on a schedule that is conducive to student use and student/staff safety.
4. This Resolution shall take effect immediately upon its adoption.