

TONAWANDA CITY SCHOOL DISTRICT

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TONAWANDA, NEW YORK 14150
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SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

March 31, 2023

Dear Warrior Parent/Guardian:

Please enjoy the upcoming Spring Break with your family. Upon our return to school on Tuesday, April 11, we will be entering the final stretch of the academic year. Each week will begin to increase in celebrations, assessments, and recognitions of student accomplishment.

Additionally, we will be finalizing our use of Mullen and Riverview Schools and begin our transition into the new Tonawanda Elementary School. The new school continues to be on budget and on time for the scheduled opening in September for all students in grades UPK -5.

Please see the following facts and information:

- We are in the final stages of creating the district budget for 2023-2024. This balanced budget includes an increase in taxes that will remain <u>UNDER the NYS tax cap</u>.
- Included in the final district budget will be the first debt service payment for the new Tonawanda Elementary School. This is a required payment of debt on the capital project and must be included in our plan for expenditure for 2023-2024.
- The annual public vote for the district budget will be held on Tuesday, May 16, 2023 in the High School Wellness Gymnasium from 11am 8pm.
- The sale of Mullen School will appear on the ballot for public vote. The Board of Education has approved the sale of Mullen Elementary School to Child and Family Services for \$850,000, subject to approval by the public and satisfaction of other contingencies.
 - Child and Family Services plans to operate a Stanley G. Falk School in the Mullen building. This program will serve students in the elementary grades.
 - O This program will serve students from many surrounding school districts, <u>including our students from Tonawanda</u> that will arrive by small bus transportation each day.
 - This program does <u>NOT</u> host afterschool, athletic, or evening activities (excluding an open house and parent/teacher conferences, etc.).
 - o <u>It is expected that the current playground will be maintained by the Stanley G. Falk</u> School.

- Our district owes nearly \$550,000 in debt on Mullen School from previous capital projects. Along with required associated fees, we expect to realize approximately \$200,000 in proceeds from this sale.
- The proceeds of this sale will be added to our capital reserve account to plan and prepare for future capital work at the Middle/High School. <u>This will reduce future tax impacts on</u> our community.
- Should this offer for purchase of Mullen School not be approved by the voters on May 16, 2023, the district would be responsible for the carrying costs (liability, insurance, maintenance, energy, etc.), as high as \$4,000 per month, until the building is eventually approved for sale.
- NO offers were received to purchase Mullen School by a home builder that would demolish the school, build homes, and join the tax base.
- We continue to market and promote Riverview School to interested parties.

Please note the following announcements below:

- Our district is searching for candidates that are interested in full-time employment in the positions of building clerk, custodian, and cleaner. These full-time positions include single/family health insurance, NYS pension, vacation and personal days, and other associated benefits. Please contact Ron Wasik at rwasik@tonacsd.org or 716-694-7675.
- Our district is in need of substitute teachers, teacher assistants, teacher aides, clerks, cleaners, and custodians. We are offering building-based positions (Monday Friday daily assignment) and half-day shifts (AM or PM or hourly/flexible shifts). Please contact Jillian Reynolds at jreynolds@tonacsd.org or 716-694-7784.

Please join us in the celebration of Mullen and Riverview schools. We plan to schedule an opportunity for the public to walk through the schools prior to their sale. We plan to provide community tours of the new elementary school in the fall season when it is fully operational and organized.

I wish each of you a great beginning to the spring season and an exciting return from Spring Break. Go Warriors!

Sincerely,

Timothy A. Oldenburg, Ed.D. Superintendent of Schools

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