



DUNCANVILLE ISD

Writing success stories, one student at a time.

Regular Board Meeting

February 18, 2025

AGENDA SECTION: 4.A., 8.I, 8.J

SUBJECT: Social Media Litigation

BOARD POLICY: BAA, BEC

STRATEGIC GOAL(S):

FISCAL NOTE: **Potential for Positive Fiscal Impact**

PREPARED/PRESENTED BY: Dr. T. Lamar Goree

Background Information

Duncanville ISD has been asked to consider joining a nationwide group of school districts asserting claims against various social media companies (such as Meta Platforms, Inc., Instagram LLC, Snap, Inc., TikTok, Inc., ByteDance, Inc., YouTube LLC, Google LLC, and Alphabet Inc.). The first claims were filed in 2022 and are pending in a multidistrict litigation in the Northern District of California.

The lawsuit asserts legal claims against the social media companies for public nuisance and negligence. The lawsuit claims these social media platforms are defective products that caused a variety of damages to adolescents, the companies knew the platforms were having a negative effect on youth mental health, but they proceeded to reap substantial profits in conscious disregard of the harms occurring. The lawsuit seeks to recover the costs incurred by school districts in implementing student technology separation efforts, increased mental health counseling costs, and expenses related to educating students with limitations caused by social media. For Texas schools, this includes costs associated with complying with Texas Education Code 33.005 related to counseling programs, and of potential enactment and compliance with the *Kids Off Social Media Act*.

300-400 schools from other states are already participating in the lawsuit.

Recommendation

Recommendation to adopt resolution approving contingent fee legal services contract and request for expedited review by the Texas Attorney General.

Recommendation to adopt contingent fee legal services agreement with Thompson & Horton LLP, Eiland & Bonnin, PC and O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, P.C.

Communication Deployment

- Board Minutes

Suggested Motions

- _Move to adopt the resolution approving contingent fee legal services contract, including findings needed for submission of contingent fee legal services agreement and request for expedited review by the Texas Attorney General



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Move to adopt the contingent fee legal services agreement with Thompson & Horton LLP, Eiland & Bonnin, PC and O'Hanlon, Demerath & Castillo, P.C.

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Respectfully submitted,

Dr. T. Lamar Goree
Superintendent