

1 RESOLUTION NO. 2026-013

First Reading Passage Requested

2

(B. Harnak)

3 SPONSOR Executive Shapiro

4

5 DATE January 26, 2026

COMMITTEE Rules

6

7 **A Resolution authorizing the Executive to execute a settlement agreement and release, in**
8 **an amount not to exceed \$115,000.00, to settle any and all claims arising out of or**
9 **concerning issues raised in the lawsuit, W.H., a minor, and A.H., Guardian of W.H., v.**
10 **Anthauon Cheatom, et al., for the Executive and the Court of Common Pleas – Juvenile**
11 **Division, and declaring an emergency.**

12

13 WHEREAS, A.H., Guardian of W.H., a minor, filed a lawsuit, concerning alleged
14 excessive use of force in response to an incident involving W.H. that occurred at the Juvenile
15 Detention Center, captioned W.H., a minor, and A.H., Guardian of W.H., v. Anthauon Cheatom,
16 et al., Case No. CV-2025-09-4506, in the Court of Common Pleas, before Judge Towell (the
17 “Lawsuit”); and

18

19 WHEREAS, in consultation with the Prosecutor and the Court of Common Pleas –
20 Juvenile Division, the Executive has reached terms of settlement with A.H., Guardian of W.H.,
21 by and through her legal counsel, to settle the Lawsuit for an amount not to exceed \$115,000.00;
22 and

23

24 WHEREAS, pursuant to the settlement agreement and release, A.H., Guardian of W.H.,
25 will settle the Lawsuit and dismiss with prejudice all her claims against the County and various
26 employees of the Court of Common Pleas – Juvenile Division who have been named in the
27 Lawsuit thus avoiding the expense of further litigation; and

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29 WHEREAS, this Council finds and determines, after reviewing all pertinent
30 information, that it is necessary and in the best interest of the County of Summit to settle the
31 Lawsuit for an amount not to exceed \$115,000.00, for the aforementioned reason;

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33 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of the County of Summit, State
34 of Ohio, that:

35

36 SECTION 1

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38 The Executive is hereby authorized to execute a settlement agreement and release in an
39 amount not to exceed \$115,000.00, to settle any and all claims arising out of or concerning issues
40 raised in the lawsuit, W.H., a minor, and A.H., Guardian of W.H., v. Anthauon Cheatom, et al.,
41 Case No. CV-2025-09-4506, in the Court of Common Pleas, before Judge Towell (the
42 “Lawsuit”), which settlement agreement shall include a full and final release and discharge by
43 A.H., Guardian of W.H., of all claims against the County and various employees of the Court of
44 Common Pleas – Juvenile Division.

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46 SECTION 2

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48 This Resolution is hereby declared an emergency in the interest of the health, safety and
49 welfare of the residents of the County of Summit and for the further purpose of immediately
50 sparing county taxpayers further expense related to defending the Lawsuit.

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1 RESOLUTION NO. 2026-013

2 PAGE TWO

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4 SECTION 3

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6 Provided this Resolution receives the affirmative vote of eight members, it shall take
7 effect immediately upon its adoption and approval by the Executive; otherwise, it shall take
8 effect and be in force at the earliest time provided by law.

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10 SECTION 4

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12 It is found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating
13 to the adoption of this Resolution were adopted in an open meeting of this Council, and that all
14 deliberations of this Council and of any of its committees that resulted in such formal action,
15 were in meetings open to the public, in compliance with all legal requirements, including Section
16 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

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19 INTRODUCED January 26, 2026

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21 ADOPTED January 26, 2026

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23 Signed by:
24 Monique Willis

25
26 CLERK OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

27

28 APPROVED January 26, 2026

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30 Signed by:
31 Steve Shapiro

32
33 EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

34

35 ENACTED EFFECTIVE January 27, 2026

Signed by:
Erin Dickinson

PRESIDENT OF BOARD OF EDUCATION

Voice Vote – YES: 11 – 0: Darrow, Dickinson,
Donofrio, Ford, Higham, Kacyon, Licate,
McKenney, Schmidt, Walters, Wilhite