

Regional School District 13 Board of Education Minutes of the Special Meeting of January 8, 2015

A special subcommittee of the Regional District 13 Board of Education met in special session on Thursday, January 8, 2015, at 4:00 p.m. in the Board Room at the Regional School District 13 Central Office, 135 Pickett Lane, Durham, Connecticut.

Board members present: Mrs. Adams, Mr. Hicks (Chair), Mr. Renninghoff

Administrators present: Pupil Personnel Director Amy Emory, Coginchaug Regional High School Principal Brian Falcone, Superintendent of Schools Kathryn Veronesi

Others present: Alyce Alfano, Esq. Attorney for the Administration, Stephen Sedor, Esq. Attorney for the Board of Education, and the RSD 13 Student who is the subject of this hearing and accompanying parents of that student and Attorney Gregory Gallo.

Call to Order

Committee Chairman Norman Hicks called the meeting to order at 6:33 p.m. after it was determined that a quorum was present (minimum of three Board members).

Move to adjourn to Executive Session to discuss confidential student matters, as permitted by Conn. Gen. Statute § 1-200(6) and 1-210(b)(17) (student expulsion hearing).

Mr. Renninghoff moved the Board of Education enter into executive session to discuss a confidential student matter relating to a student in Regional School District 13 and to further review confidential student records pursuant to Conn. Gen. Statute § 1-200(6) and 1-210(b)(17) (student expulsion hearing). Mrs. Adams seconded the motion.

In favor of the motion: Mrs. Adams, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Renninghoff

Opposed to the motion: None

Abstained from voting: None

Motion passed.

Mr. Hicks invited Attorney Alyce Alfano, Attorney Stephen Sedor, Pupil Personnel Director Amy Emory, Coginchaug Regional High School Principal Brian Falcone, Superintendent of Schools Kathryn Veronesi, a Regional School District 13 student who is the subject of this hearing and accompanying parents to participate in executive session.

The Board of Education returned to regular session at 8:18p.m.

Possible action regarding student expulsion

Mr. Renninghoff moved: It is hereby moved that the Board of Education accept the stipulated agreement by the parties and find that the student has committed an expellable offense by possessing and consuming marijuana brownies during a school activity. As a consequence, the student shall be expelled until the last day of the 2014-2015 school year. During such time, the student shall receive an alternative education to be provided by the administration.

It is further moved that the student shall be eligible to return to school on February 18, 2015, so long as the student completes 10 hours per week of community service, which shall be approved by the Superintendent. The obligation to perform community service shall cease upon the student's reentry to school. In addition, the student must continue with the student's current counseling on a weekly basis to return early and must provide the Superintendent with documentation to demonstrate attendance.

If the student returns to school early, the student shall continue current counseling on a bi-weekly basis. The student shall further refrain from engaging in any further suspendable or expellable offenses. Should the student commit an expellable offense, in the judgment of the Superintendent, the student shall serve the balance of the expulsion without a further hearing of the Board.

If and only if the student meets the conditions above, the record of this expulsion shall be expunged on the last day of the 2014-2015 school year. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion.

In favor of the motion: Mrs. Adams, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Renninghoff

Opposed to the motion: None

Abstained from voting: None

Motion passed.

Mr. Hicks thanked the Board for their time and careful consideration in this matter.

Adjournment

Mr. Renninghoff moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:26 p.m. Mrs. Adams seconded the motion.

In favor of the motion: Mrs. Adams, Mr. Hicks, Mr. Renninghoff

Opposed to the motion: None

Abstained from voting: None

Motion passed.

Respectfully submitted,

Norman Hicks

Norman Hicks, Special Committee Chairman