



SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

December 13, 2018
Central Office
4:45 p.m.

COPY RECEIVED
DATE: 12/17/18
TIME: 11:50am
TOWN CLERK'S OFFICE

BOARD MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Christopher Champagne
Edward Hendricks
Edward Strumello

OTHERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Michael Wilson, Superintendent of Schools
Dan Murphy, Board Attorney
Lee-Ann Dauerty, Board Clerk
Bernadette Hamad, Principal, Seymour Middle School
Rich Kearns, Director of Security
Vonda Tencza, Associate Superintendent
Student
Student's Parents
Student's Attorney

Mr. Strumello called the meeting to order at 4:57 p.m. with the Pledge of Allegiance

1. To consider and act upon the recommendation from the administration regarding student expulsion

MOTION: (Mr. Champagne/sec., Dr. Hendricks) move that the Board enter Executive Session to discuss a matter that would result in the disclosure of public records or the information contained therein as described in Connecticut General Statutes Sections 1-210(b)(2), (11) and (17). Further, that the Board invite the following individuals to attend the executive session:

1. Student
2. Student's Parents
3. Bernadette Hamad, Principal
4. Rich Kearns, Director of Security
5. Michael Wilson, Superintendent
6. Dan Murphy, Counsel for the Board
7. Lee-Ann Dauerty, Recording Secretary
8. Attorney Michael Fitzpatrick, Counsel for the Student
9. Vonda Tencza, Associate Superintendent

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Champagne, Dr. Hendricks, Mr. Strumello

Attorney Murphy explained the procedures of the hearing

In addition to the Board members, all those mentioned in the above motion met in Executive Session starting at 4:58 p.m. The Board members entered into deliberations for Phase 1 Did the Student Commit an Expellable Offense at 6:14 p.m. The Board entered Regular Session at 6:27 pm.

MOTION: (Mr. Champagne/sec., Dr. Hendricks) move that pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-233d, the Seymour Board of Education finds that the student discussed in executive session engaged in an expellable offense as described by the administration in this hearing.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Champagne, Dr. Hendricks, Mr. Strumello

MOTION: (Mr. Champagne/sec., Dr. Hendricks) move that the Board reenter Executive Session to discuss a matter that would result in the disclosure of public records or the information contained therein as described in Connecticut General Statutes Sections 1-210(b)(2), (11) and (17) and invite the same individuals invited into the first executive session.

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Champagne, Dr. Hendricks, Mr. Strumello

The Board members reentered into deliberations for Phase 2 Penalty at 6:44 pm. The Board entered into Regular Session at 6:59 p.m.

MOTION: (Mr. Champagne/sec., Dr. Hendricks) move that pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-233d, the Seymour Board of Education shall expel the student discussed in executive session from attendance at the Seymour Public Schools and from presence on school grounds and school sponsored activities for the period from December 13, 2018 until November 14, 2019, for the reasons presented by the administration in this hearing.

Further, the Board directs the administration to offer the student an alternative educational opportunity pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-233d(d) and consistent with Connecticut State Department of Education Guidelines for the period of this expulsion.

The student may apply for early readmission to return on the first day of the 2019-2020 school year if the student meets the following conditions in the discretion of the Superintendent of Schools:

1. Counseling in a form and frequency to be approved in advance by the Superintendent at parent expense, if any;
2. Community service in a form and frequency to be approved in advance by the Superintendent;
3. Maintenance of a minimum C average in all classes; and
4. No further violations of school rules or the law.

If the student is readmitted early, the student shall continue to meet all conditions or the Superintendent may reinstate any unserved period of expulsion or otherwise commence new disciplining proceedings.

The Board also directs the administration, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-233d(f), to record this expulsion on the student's cumulative educational record, to be expunged from such record if the student graduates from high school.

Finally, the Board authorizes Mr. Edward Strumello and Attorney Dan Murphy to communicate in writing the Board's decision and the reasons therefor, consistent with the Board's executive session discussion, to the student and his/her parent(s).

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Champagne, Mr. Hendricks, Mr. Strumello

MOTION: (Mr. Champagne/sec., Dr. Hendricks) to adjourn the meeting

SO VOTED

AFFIRMATIVE: Mr. Champagne, Dr. Hendricks, Mr. Strumello

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

Submitted by:
Lee-Ann Dauerty
Board Clerk