

**REGIONAL SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 7
BOARD OF EDUCATION MINUTES**

SPECIAL MEETING

Monday, May 8, 2023

5:00 PM

APPROVED 7.12.2023

A special meeting of the Board of Education that was called for the purpose of conducting a student expulsion hearing convened at 5:00 PM.

STUDENT #1

MOTION by Noel Gauthier, seconded by Rob Jerram, to enter into an Executive Session for the purpose of conducting a student expulsion hearing, during which matters of personal privacy of students enrolled in the District's schools are likely to be discussed, and that the following persons be invited into Executive Session to assist in either giving testimony or evidence, or representation of the various parties to the proceedings: Dr. Judy Palmer, Superintendent of Schools; the student who is the subject of the expulsion proceedings; the parents of the student who is the subject of the expulsion proceedings; Attorney Mark Sommaruga, Board attorney and procedural advisor; Kyle McClain, attorney for school administration; Attorney William Conti, attorney for the parents and the student; and Sarah Fenn, paralegal for Attorney Conti.

AYE: Molly Sexton Read, Rob Jerram, Noel Gauthier, Lisa Fragale, Mimi Duran, and Deb Bell.

NAY: None. **MOTION PASSED (6-0)**

The Board entered into Executive Session at 5:02 PM during which the expulsion hearing took place.

Dr. Palmer, Attorneys Conti and McClain, Ms. Fenn, the student, and the parents left the executive session at 5:12 PM.

The Board exited Executive Session at 5:17 PM.

MOTION by Rob Jerram, seconded by Mimi Duran, that the Board of Education approve the Stipulation submitted by the parties in executive session and hereby expel the Student discussed in executive session for one calendar year, as specified in the Stipulation, and that the disciplinary consequences and other terms set forth in the Stipulation be adopted, subject to the Student's readmission at the discretion of the Superintendent of School in accordance with the terms of said Stipulation. The Superintendent of Schools is hereby directed to offer the Student an alternative educational opportunity within the meaning of §10-233d of the Connecticut General Statutes.

AYE: Molly Sexton Read, Rob Jerram, Noel Gauthier, Lisa Fragale, Mimi Duran, and Deb Bell.

NAY: None. **MOTION PASSED (6-0)**

The Board was in recess until 5:34 PM.

STUDENT #2

MOTION by Rob Jerram, seconded by Lisa Fragale, to enter into Executive Session for the purpose of conducting a student expulsion hearing, during which matters of personal privacy of students enrolled in the District's schools are likely to be discussed, and that the following persons be invited into Executive Session to assist in either giving testimony or evidence, or representation of the various parties to the proceedings: Dr. Judy Palmer, Superintendent of Schools; the student who is the subject of the expulsion proceedings; the parents of the student who is the subject of the expulsion proceedings; Attorney Mark Sommaruga, Board attorney and procedural advisor; Kyle McClain, attorney for school administration; Gary Franklin, High School Principal; Andrew Bakulski, Assistant Principal; Dan Carroll, Assistant Principal; Fran Amara, Middle School Principal; and David Wood, SRO.

AYE: Molly Sexton Read, Rob Jerram, Noel Gauthier, Lisa Fragale, Mimi Duran, and Deb Bell.
NAY: None. **MOTION PASSED (6-0)**

The Board re-entered into Executive Session at 5:36 PM during which the expulsion hearing took place.

Dr. Palmer, Attorney McClain, Mr. Franklin, Mr. Bakulski, Mr. Carroll, Mr. Amara, Mr. Wood, the student and the parents left the executive session at 7:19 PM.

The Board exited Executive Session at 7:35 PM.

MOTION by Lisa Fragale, seconded by Deb Bell, 1) that the Board of Education adopt the Findings of Fact discussed in executive session regarding the student who was the subject of the expulsion hearing conducted in executive session, 2) that said student, as a consequence of the factual findings adopted by the Board, be expelled from participating in any phase of the Regional School District #7 educational program for one calendar year; this includes expulsion from any and all school sponsored or school related curricular and extra-curricular classes, activities, programs, ceremonies, whether at school or other locations, and 3) that said student be given an alternative educational opportunity within the meaning of §10-233d of the Connecticut General Statutes as determined by the administration.

AYE: Molly Sexton Read, Rob Jerram, Noel Gauthier, Lisa Fragale, Mimi Duran, and Deb Bell.
NAY: None. **MOTION PASSED (6-0)**

MOTION by Noel Gauthier, seconded by Rob Jerram to adjourn the meeting:

AYE: Molly Sexton Read, Rob Jerram, Noel Gauthier, Lisa Fragale, Mimi Duran, and Deb Bell.
NAY: None. **MOTION PASSED (6-0)**

Meeting adjourned at 7:37 PM.