

Special Meeting
South Orange-Maplewood

Board of Education

March 9, 2006

A Special Meeting of the Board of Education of South-Orange-Maplewood was held in the Superintendent's Office, at 525 Academy Street, Maplewood, New Jersey, on Thursday, March 9, 2006.

Board First Vice President Mila Jasey called the meeting to order at 7:20 p.m.

Adequate written notice of this meeting of the South Orange-Maplewood Board of Education was sent to the Township and Village Clerks, the Libraries, The Star Ledger, The News Record and all schools.

ROLL CALL: Present: Mr. Bennett, Ms. Jasey, Mr. Latz, Mr. Miller, Mrs. Wren-Hardin

Absent: Mr. Betheil, Ms. Crawford, Mr. Frazer, Mr. Little,

Five Members Present.

Also Present: James A. Corino, Assistant Superintendent; Ellen Bass, Esq., in-house counsel; former MMS Assistant Principal Denise Giorello-Moczulski; Marvin Comick, Esq., counsel for district administration; the mother and father of Student District ID No. 0CYL; William D. Feingold, Esq., counsel for Student District ID No. 0CYL; and Student District ID No. 0CYL.

MOTION made by Mr. Latz, seconded by Mr. Miller, that the Board of Education move to Executive Session for the purpose of discussion regarding the long-term suspension of Student District ID No. 0CYL for possession of paint thinner and matches in a Maplewood Middle School locker on January 5, 2006. Motion unanimously approved at 7:25 p.m.

MOTION made by Ms. Wren-Hardin, seconded by Mr. Miller, that the Board of Education reconvene in Public Session. Motion unanimously approved at 8:50 p.m.

MOTION made by Mr. Latz, seconded by Mr. Bennett, that the Board of Education approve Resolution 2074, as follows:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT The Board of Education approves the following:

WHEREAS, Student District ID No. 0CYL has been duly noticed and afforded the opportunity to participate in a hearing before the Board of Education and has been afforded certain due process rights; and

WHEREAS, the student's parents were advised of the right to appeal to the Commissioner of Education; and,

WHEREAS, the Board has determined that the student engaged in prohibited conduct on January 5, 2006; and, having heard the administration's recommendation;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Student District ID No. 0CYL be suspended from January 5, 2006 through June 30, 2006 with home instruction. If required, mid-term, semester and/or final examinations will be administered as part of home instruction.

On Monday, April 17, 2006, said student and his/her parents will meet with Maplewood Middle School Principal Kristopher Harrison, or his designee, to discuss the student's conditional re-entry to Maplewood Middle School on Wednesday, April 19, 2006. In early April 2006, said student shall undergo a mental health evaluation, performed by a licensed mental health professional and at parent expense, which shall indicate that said student is not a danger to him/herself or others and that said student is able to return to school. Such report shall be provided to Mr. Harrison by April 10, 2006 for discussion at the April 17, 2006 conditional re-entry meeting.

Student District ID No. OCYL shall be permitted to entry to Maplewood Middle School for four days, Monday, March 20 through Thursday, March 23, 2006, to enable said student to participate in GEPA testing that week. Each morning, said student shall report to the Main Office of the school where he/she shall be escorted to a testing location. Upon completion of testing each day, said student shall be required to leave the school building and school property immediately.

In the event that said student is involved in any behavior warranting school suspension following re-entry to Maplewood Middle School on April 19, 2006, said student shall be immediately removed from school without need for a Board hearing. Home instruction will again be provided, and marking period/semester examinations will be administered as part of home instruction.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT while out on school suspension, Student District ID No. OCYL is excluded from all Maplewood Middle School extracurricular/school activities and is not permitted on any school property or at any school function without prior approval of the Superintendent.

ROLL CALL: Motion to approve Resolution 2074 passed; 5 yes, 0 no.

MOTION made by Mr. Bennett, seconded by Ms. Wren-Hardin, to adjourn at 9:04 p.m.

Peter P. Horoschak, Superintendent