

TIM REILAND V. OWASSO PUBLIC SCHOOLS

OWASSO PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OWASSO BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
INDEPENDENT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 11
TULSA COUNTY, OKLAHOMA

HELD IN OWASSO, OKLAHOMA
ON OCTOBER 31ST, 2022

Prepared by: DEBORAH S. (DEBI) REINHARDT, CCR, CSR

1 APPEARANCES

2 For MR. REILAND:
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4 LEGAL OVERWATCH
5 ATTORNEY AT LAW
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10 Also Present: Tim Reiland

11 For SUPERINTENDENT COATES:
12 BO RAINEY, ESQ.
13 ROSENSTEIN FIST & RINGOLD
14 525 S. MAIN, #700
15 TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74103
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18 Also Present: Dr. Margaret Coates

19 Board Members Present: Renae Klein, Neal Kessler,
20 Frosty Turpen, Stephanie Ruttman, Thonda Mills

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INDEX

HEARING.....PAGE 4

EXHIBITS

PLAINTIFF EXHIBIT - DOCUMENTS
DEFENDANT EXHIBIT - NOTEBOOK

1 MR. KESSLER: We'll call this
2 to meeting to order.

3 Roll call, please.

4 MS. KLEIN: Mr. Kessler.

5 MR. KESSLER: Here.

6 MS. KLEIN: Ms. Mills.

7 MS. MILLS: Present.

8 MS. KLEIN: Ms. Ruttman.

9 MS. RUTTMAN: Here.

10 MS. KLEIN: Mr. Turpen.

11 MR. TURPEN: Present.

12 MS. KLEIN: And Mr. England.

13 MR. ENGLAND: (Not present.)

14 (There was no discernible response.)

15 MR. KESSLER: Okay.

16 We'll move to the pledge of
17 allegiance, please.

18 (Pledging.)

19 MR. KESSLER: Okay. Next we'll
20 move -- we'll now move to the third item on the
21 agenda which is the appeal hearing of Tim Reiland.

22 Begin with the statement of
23 procedures for the board.

24 This is an appeal hearing requested
25 by Tim Reiland with regard to a directive from

1 superintendent Coates dated October 12, 2022,
2 directing Mr. Reiland to leave it -- the Owasso
3 Public Schools and its grounds including sports
4 venues and prohibiting him from any district
5 activity or field trip not conducted on school
6 property. This is for a period of six months.

7 The hearing shall be conducted by the Board of
8 Education as follows. The administration shall
9 present each of the board members with a copy of the
10 written summary provided by -- to the complainants.
11 The complainant shall present each of the board
12 members with a copy of written response to the
13 administrations paperwork. The members of the Board
14 of Education shall be afforded the opportunity to
15 ask questions related to the summary and response.

16 Board of Education shall vote to accept, amend,
17 or reject the recommendations of the administration
18 with regard to the directive to complainant.

19 The decision of the Board of Education shall be
20 final and unappealable.

21 If the parties are represented by counsel,
22 counsel should now state the respective appearances.

23 MR. RAINEY: Bo Rainey for
24 superintendent Dr. Margaret Coates.

25 MS. SEIDLER: Maria Seidler for

1 Tim Reiland.

2 MR. KESSLER: Thank you, both.

3 Does anybody have any questions
4 about the procedure to be followed?

5 MR. RAINEY: Not from the
6 school district or not from Dr. Coates.

7 MS. SEIDLER: First time so I'm
8 just gonna try to go with the flow. There may be --
9 this is my first time at a hearing like this, so I'm
10 not sure if I should have questions, so I hope
11 you'll be patient with me. Where I might need some
12 guidance.

13 MR. KESSLER: We'll do our best
14 to lead you (indiscernible).

15 MS. SEIDLER: Thank you.

16 MR. KESSLER: First Dr. Coates,
17 the superintendent of schools, have you provided a
18 written summary of your directives to Mr. Reiland;
19 and if so when was it provided?

20 SUPERINTENDENT COATES: Yes,
21 sir. I provided that on Monday October 24, 2022.

22 MR. KESSLER: Thank you.

23 Thank you. If you would, please distribute your
24 written summaries to the members of the Board of
25 Education.

1 MR. RAINEY: And for the Board's
2 clarification there are two exhibits, exhibit one
3 and exhibit five, which are videos. And they are
4 contained on the flash drive behind exhibit one.
5 And we would request that, at the Board's
6 convenience, that they be played.

7 MR. KESSLER: Okay.
8 Mr. Reiland, have you prepared a written summary in
9 response to Dr. Coates's summary?

10 MS. SEIDLER: Yes, we have.

11 MR. KESSLER: Please distribute
12 your written response to the members of the Board of
13 Education.

14 MR. TURPEN: Thank you.

15 MS. RUTTMAN: Thank you.

16 MR. KESSLER: Okay, thank you.

17 We're gonna take some time here to
18 review everything we've been handed. Um, and after
19 that we'll move to some questions.

20 MS. SEIDLER: I'd like to kind
21 of clarify that -- I'll start -- (indiscernible)

22 I want -- I want to clarify that the package
23 we handed you has his statement at the beginning.
24 But as of Friday, we filed a lawsuit against the
25 district and the superintendent. And I'm not sure

1 whether you-all have seen a copy of that suit. So
2 we -- I put -- I put it on the back of the -- the
3 statement for -- for your information.

4 I understand though as of today from
5 Mr. Rainey that it was remove -- removed to Federal
6 Court. But at least you'll see what our position
7 is.

8 If -- if it's informative at all to this
9 hearing.

10 MR. KESSLER: Thank you.

11 (Pause on the record.)

12 (Multiple parties speaking at
13 the same time.)

14 MR. KESSLER: All right folks,
15 we're ready to get back to this.

16 Have all the board members had an
17 opportunity to review the parties' written
18 submissions?

19 MS. MILLS: Yes.

20 MR. TURPEN: Yes.

21 MS. RUTTMAN: Yes.

22 MR. KESSLER: Okay.

23 And we would like to see the video
24 seeing as it seems to be such a big portion of
25 this -- this discussion.

1 (Video playing.)

2 MR. RAINEY: Videos to the
3 parking lot are what is described as exhibit 5.

4 (Video playing.)

5 MS. MILLS: If we could have
6 quiet in the audience, please.

7 (Video playing.)

8 MR. RAINEY: Just for the
9 Board's clarification, the gentleman in the later
10 part of the video is not Mr. Reiland. It was
11 another gentleman in the parking lot.

12 MR. KESSLER: Does anybody need
13 to see any of these again?

14 (There was no discernible
15 response.)

16 MR. KESSLER: We'll now move to
17 the Board question time.

18 So this is now the time and place
19 in the appeal where any of the board members can ask
20 any questions of Dr. Coates and Mr. Reiland.

21 If anyone has any questions, please
22 proceed.

23 Well, the only question I've got is
24 during the Facebook part of that, Tim, I was
25 watching you, and you were laughing during the whole

1 thing while it was being played.

2 You wanna expand on that for me.

3 MR. REILAND: Uh, I mean, I
4 thought it was funny.

5 Well, to clarify that -- let me get this
6 microphone on.

7 That show is with two guys. And the title of
8 the show is called Loud Mouths. We play characters
9 who entertain and talk about politics; one liberal,
10 one conservative. So we often laugh about stuff,
11 and I have a sense of humor so.

12 MS. MILLS: Warped.

13 MR. KESSLER: Ask you --

14 MR. REILAND: I'm sorry --

15 MR. KESSLER: -- in -- in your
16 apology-to-Paul later you mentioned that you wanted
17 to speak Brent in a meaningful way.

18 And looking through the transcript
19 from Paul's statement of the language that was
20 exchanged in that discussion, you think that's a way
21 to have a meaningful conversation with a person and
22 not making 'em feel two inches tall?

23 MR. REILAND: Now, the email --
24 are you referring to email that I sent to Paul the
25 following day?

1 MR. KESSLER: (Indicating.)

2 MR. REILAND: So meaningful
3 conversation that we had on -- my -- Brent and
4 myself we've had conversations like that in the
5 past. Brent enjoys debating. Unfortunately that
6 night I was not wanting to debate. I just had a
7 simple questions for Brent as to the collaboration
8 that Neal had alluded to in an email earlier that
9 day.

10 And that's what I was trying to ask
11 him. But then he went into a debate. But then once
12 he put his hands on me that changed the context of
13 the entire conversation. To me. Made me
14 uncomfortable. As you could see in the video, I had
15 to peel myself away from him. I -- you know, I
16 don't know what Brent was thinking. But, you know,
17 it made the -- the conversation a little different.

18 MS. MILLS: Do you typically,
19 when you have those conversations with Mr. England,
20 physically touch, hug, shake hands, things of that
21 nature, as a general rule?

22 MR. REILAND: I don't recall.
23 I'm not sure. You know, I mean we -- we have had
24 several conversations after board meetings, uh, and
25 quite often he's, you know, the only one that talks

1 so, you know, I -- I don't know.

2 MR. KESSLER: In discussing a
3 -- a meaningful conversation from Paul's statement,
4 I heard Tom (phonetic) and Brent debating why
5 pornography was not in the new policy that was being
6 discussed in the board meeting tonight. Tim had
7 told Brent that it was quote -- well, I'm not gonna
8 use the bull word -- BS that they wouldn't put
9 pornography in the policy.

10 Again, I mean, you're going
11 straight profanity to discuss meaningful ways with
12 Brent about things.

13 MS. SEIDLER: I'm not sure that
14 I'm going to agree that a parking lot conversation
15 that profanity is an issue here. Regarding what
16 you're trying to accomplish is verbal harassment.

17 And you know, what two people say
18 when he -- he wasn't calling anybody else a name.
19 He was just referring to the policies that are going
20 on. A man who's very upset about the -- about the
21 pornography. So -- but, you know, um, if we're
22 trying to establish that harassment -- that's a pure
23 use of a profanity is harassment then I think we're
24 gonna have a lot of problems in the work place. I
25 mean, women who have been harassed know it's more

1 than just a casual bullshit, and some of those
2 words.

3 One of the things that parents have
4 been trying to get school -- school boards to pay
5 attention to is the use of that kind of language and
6 worse. And the -- and the actual sexual conduct --

7 (Audience applause.)

8 (Multiples parties speaking at the same
9 time.)

10 MR. KESSLER: (Indiscernible.)

11 -- wait until we're done with the hearing.

12 MS. SEIDLER: So if they're
13 going to say a -- a few profanity words when a
14 person's upset, on a parking lot with another person
15 is harassment that we need to get all those books
16 out of the school library because that's
17 harassment --

18 (Applause.)

19 MR. KESSLER: Thank you.

20 The argument here right now is not
21 about books in the library or the policy.

22 Now --

23 (Multiple parties speaking at the same
24 time.)

25 MR. KESSLER: -- excuse me.

1 I'd like to go on and ask you, did
2 Brent use any of that type of language with you?

3 MR. REILAND: Uh, not that I
4 recall.

5 MR. KESSLER: But you felt it
6 was necessary to make your argument better to use it
7 to him.

8 MR. REILAND: Uh, you don't
9 know me in my personal life, Neal, but my vocabulary
10 is very broad. And --

11 (Multiple parties speaking at the same
12 time.)

13 MR. KESSLER: -- still tone it
14 down when I need to.

15 MR. REILAND: That completely
16 irrelevant. My speech is protected by the First
17 Amendment of the Constitution --

18 (Audience applauding.)

19 MR. REILAND: -- and quite
20 frankly I'm offended by the fact that you think that
21 that speech is not.

22 (Audience applauding.)

23 (Pause on the record.)

24 MS. KLEIN: Any other
25 discussions?

1 (There was no discernible
2 response.)

3 MR. KESSLER: Doctor Coates, I
4 have a question for you just concerning a reporter
5 Haddaway and Jordan Korphage's relationship.

6 Who is Art to report to when
7 dealing with press items as far as the district the
8 concerned?

9 SUPERINTENDENT COATES:
10 Mr. Korphage.

11 MR. KESSLER: Okay. Thank you.

12 All right. Any other questions
13 from the Board?

14 MS. MILLS: None.

15 MR. KESSLER: Since there are
16 no further questions by the Board members, the Board
17 shall now deliberate in open session.

18 All right. Any items anybody
19 would like to discuss?

20 (There was no discernible
21 response.)

22 MR. KESSLER: Okay. Seeing
23 that there isn't any deliberations, does anyone have
24 the motion a that they would like to make?

25 MS. MILLS: I make a motion we

1 uphold the ban against Mr. Reiland for the period of
2 six months from OPS (indiscernible) and all district
3 sanctions at events.

4 UNIDENTIFIED SPEAKER: Boo.

5 MR. TURPEN: Second --

6 (Multiple parties speaking at the
7 same time.)

8 MR. KESSLER: -- may I get a
9 roll call, please.

10 MS. KLEIN: Mr. Kessler?

11 MR. KESSLER: Yes.

12 MS. KLEIN: Ms. Mills?

13 MS. MILLS: Yes.

14 MS. KLEIN: Mrs. Ruttman?

15 MS. RUTTMAN: Yes.

16 MS. KLEIN: And Mr. Turpen?

17 MR. TURPEN: Yes.

18 (Multiple parties speaking at the
19 same time.)

20 (Off the record.)

21

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