

**Special Meeting
Stafford Board of Education
Stafford Elementary School Library
March 21, 2016, 5:00 p.m.**

Board Members Present: Mr. Scott Gallison
Mr. Peter Kovaleski
Mr. Jeff Roberts
Mrs. Tracy Rummel, Chairperson
Mrs. Kathy Walsh

Absent: Mrs. Andrea Locke
Ms. Sonya Shegogue

Also Present: Dr. Patricia A. Collin, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Marco Pelliccia, Principal, Stafford High School
Atty. Peter Janus, Counsel for the Board of Education
Father of Student D
Student D

Item I. Call to Order- Establishment of Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. A quorum was established.

Item II. Executive Session

- a. **Board Inquiry into the Continued Enrollment and Attendance of Student D**
- b. **Board Consideration of the Superintendent's Recommendation or Motion Regarding the Expulsion of Student D from Stafford High School Pursuant to CGS 10-233d**

Mrs. Walsh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kovaleski, that the Board enter executive session to discuss material that would result in the disclosure of public records or the information contained therein as described in Connecticut General Statutes Sections 1-200(6)(E), subsection (b) of Section 1-210, specifically, personnel, student or medical and similar files the disclosure of which would constitute an invasion of privacy, and / or names and addresses of students enrolled in public school. Only those invited by the Board may be present in the executive session. Mr. Gallison, Mr. Kovaleski, Mr. Roberts, and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The Board entered executive session at 5:05 p.m.

The Board invited the following individuals into the executive session:

Dr. Patricia A. Collin, Superintendent of Schools
Attorney Peter A. Janus, Counsel for the Board of Education
Mr. Marco Pelliccia, Principal, Stafford High School
Father of Student D
Student D
Mrs. Christine Marinelli, Recording Secretary

The Board took a recess at 5:21 p.m. All invited individuals left the meeting room, with the exception of Attorney Janus. All invited individuals returned to the boardroom at 5:25 p.m.

Mr. Kovaleski made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gallison, to return to regular session. Mr. Gallison, Mr. Kovaleski, Mr. Roberts, and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The Board returned to regular session at 5:26 p.m.

Mr. Roberts made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kovaleski, that based on the evidence and testimony received after a due process hearing, it is the finding of the Stafford Board of Education that culminating on or about March 8, 2016, Student D committed an expellable offense, namely that Student D was in possession of marijuana and a cigarette lighter on school grounds during the school day; and Student D violated the Board of Education's policy 5114 (a) – (p), Board Policy 5131.6 (a)-(j) and Regulation 5131.6 (a)-(f), and the disciplinary guidelines as outlined in the Stafford High School 2015 – 2016 Student-Parent Handbook. It is the further finding of the Stafford Board of Education that such action constitutes conduct which is detrimental and an endangerment to the health, safety and welfare of other students, that such conduct is seriously disruptive of the educational process and that such conduct also violates a publicized policy of the Stafford Board of Education. Mr. Gallison, Mr. Kovaleski, Mr. Roberts, and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried.

Mrs. Walsh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Gallison, to enter executive session. Mr. Gallison, Mr. Kovaleski, Mr. Roberts, and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The Board entered executive session at 5:27 p.m.

The Board took a recess at 5:45 p.m. All invited individuals left the meeting room, with the exception of Attorney Janus. All invited individuals returned to the boardroom at 6:29 p.m.

Mrs. Walsh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kovaleski, to return to regular session. Mr. Gallison, Mr. Kovaleski, Mr. Roberts, and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The Board returned to regular session at 6:30 p.m.

Mr. Roberts made a motion, seconded by Mr. Kovaleski, that based on the previous decision of the Stafford Board of Education that Student D committed an expellable offense, and based upon the evidence and testimony received as to the length of any expulsion to be imposed for the offense by Student D, it is the finding of the Stafford Board of Education that Student D shall be expelled from the Stafford Public Schools from any and all school privileges and premises, and all school-sponsored activities for disciplinary reasons effective immediately for a period of one calendar year.

Moved further that the Administration provide Student D with an alternative educational opportunity during the expulsion period through its Adult Education Program offered at Stafford High School, provided Student D maintains a satisfactory academic record with no unexcused absences. Student D shall be permitted to come to Stafford High School only for purposes of attending the Adult Education Program during the expulsion period.

Mr. Gallison, Mr. Kovaleski, Mr. Roberts, and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried.

Item III. Adjournment

Mr. Kovaleski made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Walsh, to adjourn. Mr. Gallison, Mr. Kovaleski, Mr. Roberts, and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine C. Marinelli, Recording Secretary

Tracy L. Rummel, Chairperson

Sonya Shegogue, Secretary

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