

**Special Meeting
Stafford Board of Education
Stafford Elementary School Library
April 21, 2015, 6:00 p.m.**

Board Members Present: Mr. Tony Frassinelli
Mr. Earl Goodell
Mrs. Tracy Rummel, Chairperson
Mrs. Kathy Walsh

Absent: Mr. Peter Kovaleski
Mrs. Andrea Locke
Ms. Sonya Shegogue, Secretary

Also Present: Dr. Patricia A. Collin, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Marco Pelliccia, Principal, Stafford High School
Ms. Christine Griswold, Assistant Principal, Stafford High School
Mr. Phil Gascon, School Guidance Counselor, Stafford High School
Atty. Kyle McClain, Counsel for the Board of Education
Mrs. Christine Marinelli, Recording Secretary
Father of Student C
Mother of Student C
Aunt of Student C
Grandmother of Student C
Mr. Frederick Wynter, Advocate for Student C
Student C

Item I. Call to Order- Establishment of Quorum

The meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m. A quorum was established.

Item II. Executive Session

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

Item III. Action by the Board in Response to the Superintendent's Recommendation or Motion Regarding the Expulsion of Student C

Mr. Goodell made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Walsh, 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)(2), (11) and (17) 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. Frassinelli, Mr. Goodell and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The Board entered executive session at 6:05 p.m.

The Board invited the following individuals into the executive session:

Dr. Patricia A. Collin, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Marco Pelliccia, Principal, Stafford High School
Ms. Christine Griswold, Assistant Principal, Stafford High School
Mr. Phil Gascon, School Guidance Counselor, Stafford High School
Atty. Kyle McClain, Counsel for the Board of Education
Mrs. Christine Marinelli, Recording Secretary
Father of Student C
Mother of Student C
Aunt of Student C
Grandmother of Student C
Mr. Frederick Wynter, Advocate for Student C
Student C

The Board took a recess at 6:48 p.m. All invited individuals left the boardroom, except Atty. McClain. All invited individuals returned to the boardroom at 6:58 p.m.

Mrs. Walsh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goodell, to return to regular session. Mr. Frassinelli, Mr. Goodell and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The Board returned to regular session at 6:59 p.m.

Mr. Frassinelli made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goodell, that based on the evidence and testimony received after a due process hearing, it is the finding of the Stafford Board of Education that on or about March 27, 2015, Student C committed an expellable offense, namely that Student C assaulted another student on school grounds during the school day; Student C caused injury to the other student as a result of the assault; and Student C violated the Board of Education's Policy 5114 (a)-(m) and the disciplinary guidelines as outlined in the Stafford High School 2014-2015 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. Frassinelli, Mr. Goodell and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried.

Mrs. Walsh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goodell, to enter executive session. Mr. Frassinelli, Mr. Goodell and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The Board entered executive session at 7:00 p.m.

The Board took a recess at 7:58 p.m. All invited individuals left the boardroom, except Atty. McClain. All invited individuals returned to the boardroom at 8:20 p.m.

Mrs. Walsh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goodell, to return to regular session. Mr. Frassinelli, Mr. Goodell and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The Board returned to regular session at 8:21 p.m.

Mr. Frassinelli made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goodell, that based on the previous decision of the Stafford Board of Education that Student C 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 C, it is the finding of the Stafford Board of Education that Student C 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.

However, Student C may apply for early readmission to school at the beginning of the 2015 – 2016 school year by submitting an application to the Superintendent of Schools for consideration by the Board of Education no later than at its scheduled meeting on or about August 17, 2015. The Board will condition Student C's readmission on satisfactory performance in tutoring with no unexcused absences; maintaining a satisfactory academic record and attending counseling sessions as scheduled by the School Social Worker to deal with anger management and appropriate coping strategies. If Student C is granted early readmission, the remaining period of expulsion shall be waived.

Moved further that the Administration provide Student C with an alternative educational opportunity during the expulsion period.

Mr. Frassinelli, Mr. Goodell and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried.

The Board took a recess at 8:23 p.m.

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**

Item III. Action by the Board in Response to the Superintendent's Recommendation or Motion Regarding the Expulsion of Student D

Mr. Goodell made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Walsh, 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)(2), (11) and (17) 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. Frassinelli, Mr. Goodell and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The Board entered executive session at 8:31 p.m.

The Board invited the following individuals into the executive session:

Dr. Patricia A. Collin, Superintendent of Schools
Mr. Marco Pelliccia, Principal, Stafford High School
Ms. Christine Griswold, Assistant Principal, Stafford High School
Ms. Ashley Macrina, School Guidance Counselor, Stafford High School
Ms. Bryanna Neale, School Social Worker, Stafford High School
Atty. Kyle McClain, Counsel for the Board of Education
Mrs. Christine Marinelli, Recording Secretary
Student D and Parents of Student D were not present at the meeting.

The Board took a recess at 9:05 p.m. All invited individuals left the boardroom, except Atty. McClain.

All invited individuals returned to the boardroom at 9:07 p.m.

Mrs. Walsh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Frassinelli, to return to regular session. Mr. Frassinelli, Mr. Goodell and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The Board returned to regular session at 9:08 p.m.

Mr. Goodell made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Walsh, that based on the evidence and testimony received after a due process hearing, it is the finding of the Stafford Board of Education that on or about April 2, 2015, Student D committed an expellable offense, namely that Student D assaulted another student on school grounds during the school day; Student D caused injury to the other student as a result of the assault; and Student D violated the Board of Education's Policy 5114 (a)-(m) and the disciplinary guidelines as outlined in the Stafford High School 2014-2015 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. Frassinelli, Mr. Goodell and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried.

Mrs. Walsh made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goodell, to enter executive session. Mr. Frassinelli, Mr. Goodell and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The Board entered executive session at 9:09 p.m.

The Board took a recess at 9:15 p.m. All invited individuals left the boardroom, except Atty. McClain. All invited individuals returned to the boardroom at 9:28 p.m., except Ms. Macrina and Ms. Neale.

Mr. Frassinelli made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goodell, to return to regular session. Mr. Frassinelli, Mr. Goodell and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The Board returned to regular session at 9:29 p.m.

Mr. Frassinelli made a motion, seconded by Mr. Goodell, 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.

However, Student D may apply for early readmission to school at the beginning of the second semester of the 2015 – 2016 school year in January 2016, by submitting an application to the Superintendent of Schools for consideration by the Board of Education no later than at its scheduled meeting in December 2015. The Board will condition Student D's readmission on satisfactory academic and behavioral performance in tutoring with no unexcused absences or tardies; maintaining a satisfactory academic record; attending counseling sessions as scheduled by the School Social Worker, School Psychologist or School Guidance Counselor; and either completion of 75 hours of community service, or the reading of an autobiography about a person who has difficulty dealing with anger and completion of a 250-word essay about what Student D has learned and how the story will impact Student D's life. If Student D is granted early readmission and subsequently commits a violation of the Board of Education's policies and regulations warranting suspension or expulsion, then the original period of this expulsion shall be reinstated without further hearings.

Moved further that the Administration provide Student D with an alternative educational opportunity during the expulsion period.

Mr. Frassinelli, Mr. Goodell and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried.

Item IV. Adjournment

Mr. Goodell made a motion, seconded by Mrs. Walsh, to adjourn. Mr. Frassinelli, Mr. Goodell and Mrs. Walsh voted for the motion, which carried. The meeting adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Christine C. Marinelli, Recording Secretary

Tracy L. Rummel, Chairperson

Sonya Shegogue, Secretary

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