

PROCEEDINGS
Board of Education
Alton Community Unit School District No. 11
1854 East Broadway
Alton, IL 62002
October 18, 2016
5:30 P.M. (7:58 p.m.)

Note that the expulsion hearing was scheduled for 5:30 p.m., however, due to an overlap from the previous expulsion hearing and the fact that no student or family were present, this hearing was postponed until 7:58 p.m. (after the regularly scheduled Board Meeting).

A special meeting of the Board of Education was held at the Administrative Center, 1854 East Broadway, Alton, Illinois at 5:30 p.m. (postponed until 7:58 p.m.) on Tuesday, October 18, 2016.

The following board members answered present: Ed Gray, David Fritz, David Lauschke, Vivian Monckton, Barry Macias and George Terry

Others who were present: Mark Cappel, Interim Superintendent; Mike Bellm, Alton High School Principal; Melissa Edwards, Alton High School Assistant Principal; John Bannister, Alton High School Assistant Principal; Detective Mike O'Neil, Alton Police Department; Larry Busch, Hearing Officer; Kara Twichell, Secretary to the Board of Education and Teri Trapani, Secretary to the Assistant Superintendent

Student No. 190434 nor parents/guardians were present.

Motion: Approval of Agenda of Special Meeting

It was moved by Ms. Monckton, seconded by Mr. Lauschke and carried unanimously that the Board of Education approve the agenda of special meeting.

Citizen Statement: None

Motion: Close Session

It was moved by Mr. Fritz, seconded by Ms. Monckton and carried unanimously that the Board of Education adjourn to a closed session meeting for the purpose of conducting a student disciplinary hearing.

Motion: Open Session

It was moved by Ms. Monckton, seconded by Mr. Fritz and carried unanimously that the Board of Education resume in open session.

Motion: Action on Student Discipline Hearing

It was moved by Ms. Monckton, seconded by Mr. Lauschke and carried unanimously that the Board of Education, after considering evidence and mitigation witnesses, finds as follows: based upon and after the Board's consideration of the evidence and testimony of the expulsion hearing held on October 14, 2016, the Board of Education find that Student No. 190434 has committed an act of gross misconduct as charged by the District's Administration in that Student No. 190434 committed Assault & Battery, Disorderly Conduct and Conduct and Engaging in Activity that Constitutes an Interference with School Purposes and Educational Function on September 27, 2016 in violation of Board Policy 7:210 Expulsion Procedures.

Be it resolved that the Board of Education expel Student No. 190434 two years (October 18, 2016 – October 18, 2018), but that the expulsion be held in abeyance and Student No. 190434 be administratively transferred to an alternative school as determined by the District’s Administration, pursuant to Article 13A of the Illinois School Code. Prior to considering a recommendation for expulsion, the District’s Administration attempted other behavioral and disciplinary interventions and determined there are no other appropriate and available behavioral and disciplinary interventions. The interventions previously attempted with your student included: The Student Handbook and Agenda that is passed out at Registration. The Back-to-School Assembly covers student behavior and expectations. Suspended Curriculum is presented in each classroom over the first two days of school. There is signage at various locations around school to remind student of expectations in those areas. The student met with her guidance counselor at least twice prior to this incident to discuss academic and behavior concerns. The student was redirected by a social worker in the middle of this incident and taken away from the scene by the social worker. The student was previously placed in night school for Spring semester 2016 and began Fall, 2016 on home teaching. There were multiple conferences with many administrators regarding referrals and academics. There was parental involvement the day prior to this incident and a conference with administration and parent.

Removing Student No. 190434 from the learning environment is in the best interest of the school because this student’s continued presence in school would pose a threat to the safety of other students, staff or members of the school community and substantially disrupt, impede or interfere with the operation of the school. The duration of Student No. 190434’s expulsion is appropriate based upon the gravity of the misconduct, the illegal nature of the misconduct, the safety concerns and disruption caused by the misconduct, and prior behavioral and disciplinary interventions to support the student and promote acceptable behavior.

The expulsion being held in abeyance is contingent upon the student’s full participation in the alternative school program, including regularly attending school; complying with attendance policies, school rules, and any referrals for services or counseling made by the alternative school; and successfully completing the alternative school’s curriculum.

Be it resolved that should Student No. 190434 fail to fully participate in the alternative school program and the alternative school refers the student back to the District, Student No. 190434 shall be immediately expelled from Alton Community Unit School District #11 for the remainder of the District Administration’s recommended expulsion duration, through October 18, 2018.

President Gray adjourned the meeting at 8:19 p.m.

President

Secretary