



Excellence for All – It's the Watertown Way
Watertown Unified School District

Special Board Meeting
Proceedings

November 13, 2017

A special meeting of the Board of Education was called to order by Board President, Mark Putra, on Monday, November 13, 2017, at 6:00 p.m., in the Board Room, at the Educational Service Center, 111 Dodge Street, Watertown, Wisconsin. Mark Putra led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Board Members Present: Mark Holland, Steve Kauffeld, Tony Arnett, Karrie Uttech, Frances Milburn, Paul VanDenLangenberg, Jennifer Bakke, and Mark Putra

Board Members Absent: Ron Buchanan

Recess to Closed Session

It was moved by Steve Kauffeld, seconded by Jennifer Bakke, and unanimously carried by roll call vote, that the Board recess to Closed Session for the purpose of conducting Expulsion Hearing "A" pursuant to the provisions of Section 19.85(1)(a)(f), Wisconsin Statutes.

The student and parent were present for the hearing, which began at 6:00 p.m.

Cassandra Schug, Superintendent of Schools, introduced the administration present: Bill Loss, WHS Principal; Josh Kerr, WHS Assistant Principal; Erin Meyer, Director of Secondary Teaching and Learning; and Jeff Meloy, PSLO.

The administration presented testimony and charges in support of the recommendation for expulsion. Discussion followed.

The student and parent were given the opportunity to present testimony to the Board relative to the Administration's recommendation for expulsion. Discussion followed.

After the Hearing was completed, the Board deliberated in Closed Session.

Reconvenement

It was moved by Karrie Uttech, seconded by Mark Holland, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the Board reconvene in Open Session.

Conclusions of the Board

1. The student engages in conduct while not at school or while not under the supervision of a school authority which endangered the property, health or safety of others at school or under the supervision of a school authority and endangered the property, health or safety of any employee or school board member of the school district in which the pupil is enrolled.

2. The Board has weighed the interest of the student in receiving a free public education and the interest of fellow students, the faculty, staff and the school, and has found that the appropriate discipline is expulsion and that the interest of the school demands expulsion.

Order

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED by the School Board of the Watertown Unified School District that:

1. The student be expelled from the Watertown Unified School District commencing November 13, 2017, and continuing until the student's 21st birthday.
2. During the period of expulsion, except for any period of probationary readmission, the student shall not enter school property at any time or attend any school sponsored events either on or off school property without prior specific permission of the building principal.
3. The student may apply for probationary readmission to the schools of the District effective the first day of the first semester of the 2018/19 school year under the following conditions:

During the period of expulsion, the student will:

- a. Complete a threat assessment with a licensed professional counselor at non-District expense. The student will share with the school district the results of the assessment and any recommendations from the assessment prior to being allowed to re-enroll in the schools of the district.
- b. Present written verification of compliance with any recommendations contained in the assessment during the period of expulsion at non-District expense.
- c. Present a written recommendation from a licensed professional counselor that the student is not a risk to himself or others and is therefore safe to return to school.
- d. Engage in an on-line educational experience as determined by the student's counselor.

A determination as to whether the student has met the above conditions for probationary readmission will be made by a District Administrator, other than a Principal or Assistant in the student's school, and such determination is final and without appeal. If the District Administrator finds that the student has met the conditions for early probationary readmission, the Administrator shall grant the student early probationary reinstatement to the schools of the District. If the student applies for early probationary readmission on a date later than the date the student becomes eligible for probationary readmission, the Administrator will determine the timeline for any such return to school based on the school calendar.

4. During the period of probationary readmission, if any, the student agrees to:
 - a. Present written verification of continued compliance with the recommendations of the threat assessment whenever requested to do so at non-District expense.
 - b. Not engage in inappropriate physical contact including, but not limited to, fighting, hitting, pushing, shoving, poking, pinching or grabbing another person.
 - c. Not engage in inappropriate verbal conduct including, but not limited to, threatening someone via written means, including electronic communications.
 - d. Follow school and classroom rules as outlined in the student code of conduct.
 - e. Check in at least monthly with the WHS School Psychologist.

Failure to observe the conditions set forth above will result in the implementation of the remaining period of expulsion ordered by the Board.

A motion to accept the above findings of fact, conclusions of law and the Order was made by Steve Kauffeld, seconded by Frances Milburn, and passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Adjournment

There being no further business, it was moved by Jennifer Bakke, seconded by Mark Holland, and unanimously carried by voice vote that the meeting be adjourned. Adjournment followed at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Putra
Board President (signed)

(DISCLAIMER: These minutes are uncorrected and any correction made thereto will be noted in the meeting at which they are approved.)