

MINUTES
STEGER SCHOOL DISTRICT 194
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Thursday, December 20, 2018
at 6:00 p.m.
Columbia Central School
Steger, Illinois

The meeting was called to order at 6:01 p.m. by President Helsel. Members present: Geraci Helsel, Page, Edwards, Raymond, Turner. Members absent: Butkus.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Board and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

Public Participation

No public participation.

Minutes

A motion was made by Mr. Geraci and seconded by Mrs. Page to approve the following items:

- ACTION** A. The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the minutes from the November 14, 2018, Special Board Meeting.
- ACTION** B. The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the minutes from the November 15, 2018, Board Meeting regular and executive session.
- ACTION** C. The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the minutes from the November 28, 2018, Special Board Meeting regular and executive sessions.
- ACTION** D. The Superintendent recommends that the audio tapes of the minutes from the June 7, 2017, Executive Session be destroyed.

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Helsel, Edwards, Geraci, Page, Raymond, Turner. Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

Financial Accounts

A motion was made by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Mrs. Raymond to approve the following item under Financial Accounts:

- ACTION:** F. Payment of December bills

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Helsel, Edwards, Raymond, Geraci, Page, Turner. Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Hahto addressed the following topics:

1. The District Christmas party
2. PLC's – moving forward

Anne Luering is the main professional development person.

Board Matters

A motion was made by Mr. Geraci and seconded by Mrs. Page to approve the following items under Board Matters.

- ACTION** A. The Superintendent recommends that the board approve the 2018 Tax Levy as presented.
- ACTION** B. Second reading and adoption of changes made to Board Policy 5:240.
- INFO** C. First reading of Board Policy changes as recommended by Press Plus and ISBE.

Upon roll call all members aye: Geraci, Edwards, Page, Helsel, Raymond, Turner. Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

Personnel

A motion was made by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Mrs. Edwards to approve items A, B, D, and E under Personnel. Item C was tabled and no action was taken regarding item C.

- ACTION** A. The Superintendent recommends that the Board accept the resignation of Karen Miller, fifth grade teacher at Columbia Central, effective December 7, 2018.
- ACTION** B. The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the appointment of Eric Diehl to Assistant Superintendent of Finance and Operations effective immediately.
- ACTION** C. The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the employment of Ashley McCann as fifth grade teacher for the 2018-2019 school year.
- ACTION** D. The Superintendent recommends that the Board approve the employment of Rian Hersey as Administrative Assistant / Cafeteria Supervisor / Athletics, effective for the 2018-2019 school year.
- ACTION** E. The Superintendent recommends that the Board accept the resignation of Cynthia Sanchez-Cardenas, ELL aide, effective December 21, 2018.

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Turner, Raymond, Page, Geraci, Edwards, Helsel. Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

Administrative Reports

Mr. Diehl shared information regarding a Property Tax Relief Grant created by the Illinois General Assembly. Mr. Diehl will submit the application on behalf of Steger School District 194.

New Business

None at this time.

Old Business

None at this time.

Correspondence

Thank you card from the Norcutt family

Thank you card from the Sarek and Sands families

PTA

No report at this time.

CLOSED SESSION

- ACTION** A. At 6:22 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Edwards and seconded by Mrs. Raymond to go into Closed Session to discuss the following:
1. The appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body
 2. Student disciplinary matters

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Edwards, Page, Helsel, Geraci, Raymond, Turner.
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

At 7:59 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Edwards and seconded by Mrs. Raymond to return to open session. Upon roll call all members voting aye: Turner, Edwards, Helsel, Geraci, Page, Raymond, Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

At 8:00 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Mrs. Edwards as follows:

I move that, based upon and after the Board's consideration of the evidence and testimony of the expulsion hearing held on December 18, 2018, the Board of Education finds that Student No. 23571 is guilty of gross misconduct as charged by the District's Administration in that Student No. 23571 engaged in a fight on school grounds in violation of Board Policy 7:190.

I move that the Board of Education expel Student No. 23571 through December 20, 2020, but that the expulsion be held in abeyance and Student No. 23571 be administratively transferred to an alternative school as determined by the District's Administration, pursuant to Article 13A of the Illinois School Code. The Board further finds that the period of expulsion will end on December 20, 2020, or upon the student's completion of 8th grade graduation requirements, whichever occurs first, and the student will be considered in good standing and permitted to enroll in 9th grade as of that date.

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.

I move that should Student No. 23571 fail to fully participate in the alternative school program and the alternative school refer the student back to the District, Student No. 23571 shall be immediately expelled from Steger School Dist. 194 for the remainder of the District Administration's recommended expulsion duration, through December 20, 2020.

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 the student included but are not limited to school-wide positive behavior interventions and reinforcement of behavioral expectations, individual interventions with the student by staff and administration such as redirection, conferences and other supports, in-school and out-of-school suspension and other disciplinary measures, counseling and instruction on good decision-making, restorative justice practices, and other daily interventions across setting at school, as well as contacts with the parent.

Removing Student No. 23571 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/or substantially disrupt, impede or interfere with the operation of the school. The duration of Student No. 23571's expulsion is appropriate based upon the gravity of the misconduct, the safety concerns and/or disruption caused by the misconduct, the student's past disciplinary history, and prior behavioral and disciplinary interventions to support the student and promote acceptable behavior.

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Turner, Edwards, Helsel, Raymond, Page, Geraci. Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

At 8:05 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Mrs. Edwards as follows:

I move that, based upon and after the Board's consideration of the evidence and testimony of the expulsion hearing held on December 18, 2018, the Board of Education finds that Student No. 24345 is guilty of gross misconduct as charged by the District's Administration in that Student No. 24345 engaged in a fight on school grounds in violation of Board Policy 7:190.

I move that the Board of Education expel Student No. 24345 through December 20, 2020, but that the expulsion be held in abeyance and Student No. 24345 be administratively transferred to an alternative school as determined by the District's Administration, pursuant to Article 13A of the Illinois School Code. The Board further finds that the period of expulsion will end on December 20, 2020, or upon the student's completion of 8th grade graduation requirements, whichever occurs first, and the student will be considered in good standing and permitted to enroll in 9th grade as of that date.

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.

I move that should Student No. 24345 fail to fully participate in the alternative school program and the alternative school refer the student back to the District, Student No. 24345 shall be immediately expelled from Steger School Dist. 194 for the remainder of the District Administration's recommended expulsion duration, through December 20, 2020.

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 the student included but are not limited to school-wide positive behavior interventions and reinforcement of behavioral expectations, individual interventions with the student by staff and administration such as redirection, conferences and other supports, in-school and out-of-school suspension and other disciplinary measures, counseling and instruction on good decision-making, restorative justice practices, and other daily interventions across setting at school, as well as contacts with the parent.

Removing Student No. 24345 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/or substantially disrupt, impede or interfere with the operation of the school. The duration of Student No. 24345's expulsion is appropriate based upon the gravity of the misconduct, the safety concerns and/or disruption caused by the misconduct, the student's past disciplinary history, and prior behavioral and disciplinary interventions to support the student and promote acceptable behavior.

Upon roll call all members voting aye: Turner, Edwards, Helsel, Page, Geraci, Raymond. Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

Adjournment

At 8:10 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Page and seconded by Mrs. Raymond to adjourn the meeting. All members voting aye: Edwards, Geraci, Helsel, Page, Raymond, Turner. Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Butkus. Motion carried.

Secretary, Board of Education

President, Board of Education