

REED CITY AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of Closed Session

Wednesday, February 10, 2021

6:04 p.m.

[http://j.mp/RCAPS Meet](http://j.mp/RCAPS_Meet)

The RCAPS Board of Education Special Meeting was held wholly electronically and was called to order by President Eichenberg at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, February 10, 2021.

Roll Call

Present: Members Bookwalter, Eichenberg, Franklin, C. Mund (delayed entry), S. Mund, Quinn, and Vanderhoof (delayed entry)
Superintendent Sweet, Recording Secretary Battle, Legal Counsel - Jennifer Starlin, Middle School Principal - David Carlson and Behavior Interventionist - Danielle Breedlove, Student and Student's Parents

Absent: All Present

Motion by Member S. Mund with support by Member Quinn to approve the agenda as presented.

Motion carried unanimously.

Communication from the Public

There was no public comment.

Motion by Member Franklin with support from Member Bookwalter to approve the consent agenda which included meeting minutes from the Work Study Session and Business Meeting held on January 18, 2021 and the Personnel Committee Meeting held on February 1, 2021.

Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Member Quinn with support from Member Franklin to approve that the Board of Education for Reed City Area Public Schools appoint Jennifer Starlin from Thrun Law Firm to serve as the Board's Hearing Officer for the student discipline hearing.

Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Motion by Member Bookwalter with support from Member Quinn to enter into Closed Session pursuant to Section 8(b) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act and upon the request of Student's parents, to enter into Closed Session for the purpose of conducting a hearing to consider the disciplining of a student whose identity is known to the Board.

Motion carried unanimously.

A roll call vote was taken with the following results:

Ayes: Members Bookwalter, Eichenberg, Franklin, S. Mund and Quinn

Nays: None

Absent: Members C. Mund and Vanderhoof

The Board entered into closed session, with the inclusion of Superintendent Sweet, Recording Secretary Battle, Legal Counsel Starlin, Middle School Principal Carlson, Behavior Interventionist Breedlove, Student, and Student's parents at 6:04p.m.

Open Session

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:54

Motion by Member Mund with support from Member Quinn to accept the resolution that a preponderance of the evidence establishes that on January 26, 2021, the Student (known to the Board) possessed a knife with a blade 3 inches in length at school and threatened another student with that knife in violation of pages 16-17 of the Student Code of Conduct. Based on careful consideration of all of the following factors, the Board determines that expulsion is warranted: Student's age, disciplinary history, student disabilities, seriousness of behavior, safety risk involved, if restorative practices are a better option and whether lesser interventions would address the behavior. The student is permanently expelled from the District. During the time of expulsion, the Student may not be on school grounds or attend any functions at the District without prior written approval from the Superintendent. The Student may petition the Board for reinstatement no sooner than October 1, 2021, and possibly be reinstated no sooner than the beginning of the second trimester of the 2021-2022 school year, at the discretion of the Board. Before reinstatement, the student must: demonstrate successful participation in an appropriate counseling program approved by the Superintendent; submit to the Board competent and credible evidence from an appropriately licensed and credentialed professional that the Student does not pose a risk of harm to the Student or to others; establish that the Student has not engaged in conduct during the period of expulsion that may be viewed by the Board as detrimental to the Student's education at the District; demonstrate to the satisfaction of the Board that the Student received educational instruction and cooperatively participated in an educational program during the period of expulsion; and provide a copy of the Student's disciplinary record(s) from all schools he attended during the period of his expulsion, demonstrating that he did not engage in misconduct in another school.

Roll call vote was taken with the following results:

AYES: Members Eichenberg, C. Mund, S. Mund, Quinn and Vanderhoof

NAYS: Member Franklin

ABSENT: Member Bookwalter

Roll call vote produced 5 Ayes to 1 Nay, 1 absence.

Adjournment

With no further reason to enter into closed session, the Work Study Session was adjourned at 7:58p.m.