

Minutes of the Special Meeting of February 22, 2023

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District No. 1, Coles and Cumberland Counties, Illinois met in special session on Wednesday, February 22, 2023 at the Administration Building – 410 West Polk Avenue, Charleston, Illinois 61920

At 5:32pm, President Coe called the meeting to order and asked for roll call.

The following board members were present:

Jason Coe, President

Scott Clarke, Vice President

Charles Jarrell, Treasurer

Susan Daniels, Secretary

Brian Gough

Brandon Wright

The following board members were absent:

Eva Ritchey

The following staff members were present:

Todd Vilardo, Superintendent of Schools

Chad Burgett, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services

Chelsey Bennett, Recording Secretary

Robert Lynn, CMS Principal

Blain Mayhall, CMS Dean of Student

Luke Feeney, School Attorney, Hearing Officer

Visitors 2 and 0 Members of the Press

The purpose of the special meeting was to hold a disciplinary hearing on student #85918. The student and guardian were in attendance.

Under Public, Staff Comments, Written Communication, President Coe asked if there were any requests or written communications to the Board of Education. No requests were received.

At 5:34pm, President Coe recommended that the Board of Education adjourn into closed session to hear testimony regarding a student disciplinary case pursuant to the Open Meetings Act – 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9), and to determine disciplinary action to student #85918. Mr. Gough moved and Mr. Wright seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Gough, Wright, Clarke, Jarrell, Coe, Daniels

NAY: none Abstain: none

Motion carried

At 5:51pm, Mr. Jarrell made a motion to reconvene from closed session. Mr. Gough seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Jarrell, Gough, Clarke, Wright, Coe, Daniels

NAY: none Abstain: none

Motion carried

Back in open session, President Coe moved that student #85918 be found to have violated Illinois law and school district rules and regulations by fighting and threatening a student on school property during school hours under circumstances so related to the school program so as to warrant discipline.

At 5:54pm, Mr. Jarrell moved to return to closed session to determine disciplinary action to student #85918. Mr. Gough seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Jarrell, Gough, Clarke, Wright, Coe, Daniels

NAY: none ABSTAIN: none

Motion carried

At 6:58pm, Mr. Jarrell made a motion to reconvene from closed session. Mr. Gough seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Jarrell, Gough, Clarke, Wright, Coe, Daniels

NAY: none ABSTAIN: none

Motion carried

Back in open session, Vice President Clarke moved that student #85918 be expelled from Charleston Community Unit School District No. 1 for two calendar years, effective immediately, but that the said expulsion be held in abeyance for the sole purpose of student #85918 to attend the ROE Bridges Safe Schools Alternative Education Program, provided that transportation to and from Bridges be provided by the student's family for the duration of the expulsion.

Mr. Gough seconded the motion.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Clarke, Gough, Jarrell, Wright

NAY: Coe, Daniels ABSTAIN: none

Motion carried

At 7:05pm, Dr. Clarke moved and Mr. Gough seconded the motion to adjourn from the special board meeting.

On roll call vote:

AYE: Clarke, Gough, Jarrell, Wright, Coe, Daniels

NAY: none Abstain: none

Motion carried

Jason Coe
President, Board of Education

Susan Daniels
Secretary, Board of Education