

REED CITY AREA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of Special Meeting

Monday, September 27, 2021

5:30 p.m.

Porteous Academic Center

http://j.mp/RCAPS_Meet

The RCAPS Board of Education Special Meeting was held both electronically and in person. Member Spencer Mund and Bookwalter attended virtually due to medical reason. The Special Meeting was called to order by President Eichenberg at 5:30 p.m. on Monday, September 27, 2021.

Roll Call

Present: Members Bookwater (Akron, OH) Eichenberg, Franklin, C. Mund, S. Mund (Reed City, MI), Quinn, and Vanderhoof
Superintendent Sweet, Recording Secretary Battle, Elementary School Principal Webber, Elementary Dean of Students Griffin, Student, and Student's Grandfather/Guardian

Absent: None

Motion by Member Franklin 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 S. Mund to approve that the Board of Education for Reed City Area Public Schools appoint Superintendent Michael Sweet to serve as the Board's Hearing Officer for the student discipline hearing.

Motion carried unanimously.

Closed Session

Motion by Member C. Mund with support from Member Franklin to enter into Closed Session pursuant to Section 8(b) of the Michigan Open Meetings Act and upon the request of Student's Grandparent/Guardian, 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 (Akron, OH), Eichenberg, Franklin, C. Mund, S. Mund (Reed City, MI), Quinn, and Vanderhoof

Nays: None

Absent: None

The Board entered into closed session, with the inclusion of Hearing Officer Sweet, Recording Secretary Battle, Elementary School Principal Webber, Elementary Dean of Students Griffin, Student, and Student's Grandfather/Guardian at 5:32p.m.

Open Session

The Board returned to Open Session at 7:20p.m.

Motion

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Franklin and supported by Member C. Mund:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

A preponderance of the evidence establishes that on September 22, 2021, the Student possessed a knife with a blade greater than 3 inches in length on school property in violation of page 16 of the G.T. Norman Elementary School Handbook.

Based on careful consideration of all of the following factors, the Board determines that a suspension is warranted:

- The student's age;
- The student's disciplinary history;
- Whether the student has a disability;
- The seriousness of the behavior;
- Whether the behavior posed a safety risk;
- Whether restorative practices are a better option; and
- Whether lesser interventions would address the behavior.

Because of the Student's age, the lack of disciplinary history, and that lesser interventions will address the behavior the Student is suspended for 5 days from the District. During the time of the suspension, the Student may not be on school grounds or attend any functions at the District without prior written approval from an appropriate administrator. Upon return the following will occur:

The parent/guardian will search the Student daily before entering the bus. The student's backpack will be held at the front of the bus. The Student will be seated in the front passenger seat for the 2021/2022 school year. Weekly visits, when possible, will be held with the Behavior Interventionist with more to be determined as needed. The Student will comply with all directions given by the Behavior Interventionist.

Consistent with Sections 11a and 1311(1) of the Revised School Code, the Board finds that the interests of the District are served by this resolution. Administrators are directed and authorized to implement all terms of this resolution and are delegated all necessary authority to do so. All resolutions and parts of resolutions that conflict with the provisions of this resolution are rescinded.

Roll call vote was taken with the following results:

AYES: Members: Bookwalter (Akron, OH), Eichenberg, Franklin, C. Mund, S. Mund (Reed City, MI), Quinn, and Vanderhoof

NAYS: None

ABSENT: None

Motion passed 7 Ayes to 0 Nays.

Adjournment

Motion by Member Bookwalter with support by Member Quinn to adjourn the Special Meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

The Special Meeting was adjourned at 7:25p.m.