

Frankfort Community Unit School District #168
BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING

Wednesday, December 14, 2022 – 6:00 pm

The Board of Education of Frankfort Community Unit School District #168 held a Special Board Meeting on Wednesday, December 14, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. in the Central Junior High School Library, 1600 East Ninth Street, West Frankfort, Illinois.

A. Call to Order, Roll Call, and Establishment of Quorum: President Keith Griffith called the Special Meeting of the Frankfort Community Unit School District #168 to order with the following members present: Jon Alexander, Rick Conner, Keith Griffith, and Kevin Toney. Mrs. Dawn Browning and Mr. Larry Burns were absent. The purpose of the Special Meeting was to hold hearings regarding student disciplinary cases.

Three other people were present including the Superintendent, the Assistant Superintendent, two administrators and three members of the public.

B. Hearing of Delegates or Visitors and Public Comments: There was none.

C. New Business:

A. Appointment of Hearing Officer – Mr. Conner made a Motion to Appoint as Hearing Officer for the Disciplinary Hearings to be held that evening, Mr. Keith Griffith. Mr. Alexander seconded the Motion. The Motion carried 4-0.

B. Closed Session – The Board voted to Convene in Closed Session **four** times during the meeting to hold hearings regarding student disciplinary cases, as set forth in 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(9).

1. Mr. Toney made a Motion to Convene in the **first** Closed Session. Mr. Alexander seconded the Motion. The Motion carried 4-0. The Board was in Closed Session from 6:02 p.m. until 6:27 p.m.

Mr. Alexander made a Motion to Re-Convene in Open Session. Mr. Toney seconded the Motion. The Motion carried 4-0.

2. Mr. Toney made a Motion to Convene in the **second** Closed Session. Mr. Conner seconded the Motion. The Motion carried 4-0. The board was in Closed Session from 6:28 p.m. to 6:52 p.m.

Mr. Alexander made a Motion to Re-Convene in Open Session. Mr. Toney seconded the Motion. The Motion carried 4-0.

3. Mr. Griffith made a Motion to Convene in the **third** Closed Session. Mr. Alexander seconded the Motion. The Motion carried 4-0. The Board was in Closed Session from 6:54 p.m. until 7:14 p.m.

Mr. Toney made a Motion to Re-Convene in Open Session. Mr. Alexander seconded the Motion. The Motion carried 4-0.

4. Mr. Conner made a Motion to Convene in the **fourth** Closed Session. Mr. Alexander seconded the Motion. The Motion carried 4-0. The board was in Closed Session from 7:15 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Mr. Alexander made a Motion to Re-Convene in Open Session. Mr. Conner seconded the Motion. The Motion carried 4-0.

C. Possible Action on Student Disciplinary Hearings – the Board entertained **four** Motions regarding action on student disciplinary hearings during Open Session during the meeting.

1. After the **first** Closed Session, Mr. Griffith made a Motion that Student #2022-1201-01 be found to have violated school rules by engaging in prohibited student conduct as described in Closed Session Minutes which was deemed to be gross disobedience and misconduct and that the student’s continuing presence constituted a threat to safety and would substantially disrupt, impede, or interfere with the operation of the school. Mr. Alexander seconded the Motion. The Motion carried 4-0.
2. After the **second** Closed Session, in regards to Student #2022-1201-01, Mr. Alexander made a Motion that the suspension of 10 days be upheld and that the student be expelled from Frankfort CUSD #168 for a period of one year through the end of the first semester of the 2023-2024 school year with a return date effective as of January 2024, with the opportunity until that time to attend Project ECHO Alternative School Program of Regional Office of Education #21 and hereby directed the Superintendent to issue a written decision consistent with the Board’s decision. Mr. Toney seconded the Motion. The Motion carried 4-0.
3. After the **third** Closed Session, Mr. Alexander made a Motion that Student #2022-11229-01 be found to have violated school rules by engaging in prohibited student conduct as described in Closed Session Minutes which was deemed to be gross disobedience and misconduct and that the student’s continuing presence constituted a threat to safety and would substantially disrupt, impede, or interfere with the operation of the school. Mr. Toney seconded the Motion. The Motion carried 4-0.
4. After the **fourth** Closed Session, in regards to Student #2022-1129-01, Mr. Alexander made a Motion that the suspension of 10 days be upheld and that the student be expelled from Frankfort CUSD #168 for a period of two years through December 14, 2024, with a return date effective the following school day, with the opportunity until that time to attend Project ECHO Alternative School Program of Regional Office of Education #21 and hereby directed the Superintendent to issue a written decision consistent with the Board’s decision. Mr. Toney seconded the Motion. The Motion carried 4-0.

- IV. Adjourn:** Mr. Alexander made a Motion to Adjourn the meeting. Mr. Conner seconded the Motion. The Motion carried 4-0. The meeting was adjourned at 7:31 p.m.



President, Keith Griffith



Secretary Pro-Tem, Rick Conner