

THE ENGLEWOOD BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES – PUBLIC MEETING
May 28, 2019
6:30 p.m.

The meeting was called to order at 6:38 p.m. and the NJ Open Public Meeting Statement was read by Mr. Kravitz, Superintendent of Schools.

Present: Steven Berrios, Molly Craig-Berry, Donovan Rodriques, Michelle Marom, Brent Watson (arrived at 6:47 p.m.), Angela Midgette-David (arrived 7:10 p.m.), Elisabeth Schwartz, Dalia Lerner, Kim Donaldson

Absent: Molly Craig-Berry, Elisabeth Schwartz, Dalia Lerner

Also Present: Robert Kravitz, Superintendent of Schools, Cheryl Balletto, Business Administrator/Board Secretary, Scott Zucker, Board Attorney

Motion by Ms. Marom; seconded by Mr. Watson to enter closed session.

CLOSED SESSION AS NECESSARY (*Use this resolution to identify the qualified matters to be discussed*)

WHEREAS, the Open Public Meetings Act, N.J.S.A.10:4-12, permits the Board of Education to meet in closed session to discuss certain matters, now, therefore be it

RESOLVED, the Board of Education adjourns to closed session to discuss: (select one or more)

- 1) *a matter rendered confidential by federal or state law*
 - 2) *a matter in which release of information would impair the right to receive government funds*
 - 3) *material the disclosure of which constitutes an unwarranted invasion of individual privacy*
 - 4) *a collective bargaining agreement and/or negotiations related to it*
 - 5) *a matter involving the purchase, lease, or acquisition of real property with public funds*
 - 6) *protection of public safety and property and/or investigations of possible violations or violations of law*
 - 7) *pending or anticipated litigation or contract negotiation and/or matters of attorney-client privilege*
 - 8) *specific prospective or current employees unless all who could be adversely affected request an open session*
 - 9) *deliberation after a public hearing that could result in a civil penalty or other loss*
- and be it

FURTHER RESOLVED, the minutes of this closed session be made public when the need for confidentiality no longer exists.

Ms. Donaldson – There will be no action taken on the agenda.

PRIVILEGE OF THE FLOOR

Mr. Trusty – Why did this process take so long since we had a scheduled time? Secondly, how do we vote on children's discipline when we have displayed inappropriate ourselves?

Ms. Trusty – My appointment was at 9:00 p.m. This ridiculous that we are here this late. I've been waiting since April 30th for a response.

Ms. Matos – I am here ask the Board to dismiss the charges for criminal activity in the school. Students within our school district have not been supplied with proper intervention and with certain protections. Some of the students are undocumented and by having a criminal charge against them could cause deportation.

Ms. Jones - What are the interventions that you have in place? What is your protocol? If there were no interventions in place, then you can't go to criminal charges.

Mr. Whilby – Steven Berrios actions were egregious. Compared to the actions of adolescents it doesn't make any sense that you are legislatively lynching our children. The fight has been sensationalized. We believe in second chances – we believe that these kids made a mistake. You aren't doing us any favors by criminalizing our kids. The District hasn't done what it's supposed to do. The parents tell me home schooling hasn't been set up. There's no student handbook. I want to commend Donovan Rodriques for trying to show the rest of you how to be effective Board members. Donovan exemplifies behavior that would turn this train wreck around.

Mr. Kravitz – I apologize for the late evening as well as not keeping with the schedule The Board and I felt it would be best to hear everybody’s comments and take it all into account. There is no decision tonight. We will have another meeting to determine what the consequences will be. But first we need to hear from every parent. As far as interventions, some students have been given counseling and have gone to the school counselors. We can’t force them to go to counseling.

BOARD DISCUSSION

REVIEW OF CONSENT AGENDA

(The following resolutions are presented for your consideration pursuant to Board of Education Bylaw 164.)

No Action was taken on the consent agenda.

Resolution #	Topic	Berrios	Rodriques	Marom	Watson	Midgette-David	Donaldson
19-A-73	Approval – Student Suspension 145327						
19-A-74	Approval – Student Suspension 148365						
19-A-75	Approval – Student Suspension 144678						
19-A-76	Approval – Student Suspension 145199						
19-A-77	Approval – Student Suspension 146082						
19-A-78	Approval – Student Suspension 144383						
19-A-79	Approval – Student Suspension 150513						
19-A-80	Approval – Student Suspension 146022						
19-A-81	Approval – Student Suspension 145282						
19-A-82	Approval – Student Suspension 144588						
19-A-83	Approval – Student Suspension 145777						

NEW/OLD BUSINESS:

Motion to adjourn at 2:23 a.m. by Ms. Marom; seconded by Mr. Berrios.

ADMINISTRATION

19-A-73 APPROVAL – STUDENT SUSPENSION

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board conducted a disciplinary hearing for Student Number 145327; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was conducted in accordance with New Jersey regulations and Board Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Board heard testimony from representatives of the school District and from the student/parent(s); now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby suspends Student Number 145327 from May 1, 2019 through June 20, 2019.

19-A-74 APPROVAL – STUDENT SUSPENSION

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board conducted a disciplinary hearing for Student Number 148365; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was conducted in accordance with New Jersey regulations and Board Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Board heard testimony from representatives of the school District and from the student/parent(s); now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby suspends Student Number 148365 from May 1, 2019 through June 20, 2019.

19-A-75 APPROVAL – STUDENT SUSPENSION

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board conducted a disciplinary hearing for Student Number 144678; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was conducted in accordance with New Jersey regulations and Board Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Board heard testimony from representatives of the school District and from the student/parent(s); now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby suspends Student Number 144678 from May 1, 2019 through June 20, 2019.

19-A-76 APPROVAL – STUDENT SUSPENSION

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board conducted a disciplinary hearing for Student Number 145199; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was conducted in accordance with New Jersey regulations and Board Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Board heard testimony from representatives of the school District and from the student/parent(s); now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby suspends Student Number 145199 from May 1, 2019 through June 20, 2019.

19-A-77 APPROVAL – STUDENT SUSPENSION

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board conducted a disciplinary hearing for Student Number 146082; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was conducted in accordance with New Jersey regulations and Board Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Board heard testimony from representatives of the school District and from the student/parent(s); now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby suspends Student Number 146082 from May 1, 2019 through June 20, 2019.

19-A-78 APPROVAL – STUDENT SUSPENSION

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board conducted a disciplinary hearing for Student Number 144383; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was conducted in accordance with New Jersey regulations and Board Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Board heard testimony from representatives of the school District and from the student/parent(s); now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby suspends Student Number 144383 from May 1, 2019 through June 20, 2019.

19-A-79 APPROVAL – STUDENT SUSPENSION

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board conducted a disciplinary hearing for Student Number 150513; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was conducted in accordance with New Jersey regulations and Board Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Board heard testimony from representatives of the school District and from the student/parent(s); now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby suspends Student Number 150513 from May 1, 2019 through June 20, 2019.

19-A-80 APPROVAL – STUDENT SUSPENSION

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board conducted a disciplinary hearing for Student Number 146022; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was conducted in accordance with New Jersey regulations and Board Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Board heard testimony from representatives of the school District and from the student/parent(s); now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby suspends Student Number 146022 from May 1, 2019 through June 20, 2019.

19-A-81 APPROVAL – STUDENT SUSPENSION

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board conducted a disciplinary hearing for Student Number 145282; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was conducted in accordance with New Jersey regulations and Board Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Board heard testimony from representatives of the school District and from the student/parent(s); now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby suspends Student Number 145282 from May 1, 2019 through June 20, 2019.

19-A-82 APPROVAL – STUDENT SUSPENSION

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board conducted a disciplinary hearing for Student Number 144588; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was conducted in accordance with New Jersey regulations and Board Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Board heard testimony from representatives of the school District and from the student/parent(s); now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby suspends Student Number 144588 from May 1, 2019 through June 20, 2019.

19-A-83 APPROVAL – STUDENT SUSPENSION

WHEREAS, upon the recommendation of the Superintendent, the Board conducted a disciplinary hearing for Student Number 145777; and

WHEREAS, the hearing was conducted in accordance with New Jersey regulations and Board Policy; and

WHEREAS, the Board heard testimony from representatives of the school District and from the student/parent(s); now

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Board hereby suspends Student Number 145777 from May 1, 2019 through June 20, 2019.