



Torrington Public Schools

FIONA CAPPABIANCA
CHAIRPERSON

DENISE L. CLEMONS
SUPERINTENDENT

**Special Meeting of the Board of Education
Discussion of a Confidential Student Matter
Tuesday, May 30, 2017, 5:00PM
355 Migeon Avenue**

Minutes

Board Members: Joanne Brogis, Wendy Pataky, Jessica Richardson, Peter Vergaro

1. Meeting called to order at 5:03PM.
2. Motion to go into Executive Session to discuss a confidential student matter, by Ms. Richardson, seconded by Ms. Pataky. Approved 3-0. (Dr. Brogis not yet present).

The Board entered into executive session at 5:04PM

The Board invited the following individuals (in addition to Board members and Board counsel, Richard Mills) into the executive session:

Denise Clemons, Superintendent

Lynda Reitman, Principal

Mark Sommaruga, Attorney for the Administration

Student who is the subject of the hearing, the student's mother and the student's grandmother

The Board excused everyone for deliberations except Board counsel, Richard Mills. Approximately 5:35PM

The Board returned to open session at 5:46PM.

Mr. Vergaro read the following proposed motion:

That the Torrington Board of Education finds, based on the evidence in the record that the student who is the subject of this hearing did, on or about April 25, 2017, possess a gravity knife on school grounds. Such conduct constituted a mandatory expulsion offense under Section 10-233d of the Connecticut General Statutes, violated a publicized policy of the Board, endangered persons or property, and was seriously disruptive of the educational

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on June 21, 2017

process. As a result of the above findings, the Torrington Board of Education concludes that the student who is the subject of this hearing did commit an expellable offense.

Above motion made by Ms. Pataky, seconded by Ms. Richardson. All in favor.

3. Motion to go into executive session to discuss a confidential student matter, by Ms. Richardson, seconded by Ms. Pataky. All in favor.

The Board entered into executive session at 5:48PM.

The Board invited the same individuals as set forth for the preceding executive Session.

Everyone excused for Board deliberations, except for Board counsel, Richard Mills at 6:01PM

The Board returned to open session at 6:06PM. Mr. Vergaro read the following proposed motion:

That the student who is the subject of this hearing shall be expelled from the Torrington Public Schools for one calendar year from the date of the April 25, 2017 incident and continuing through April 25, 2018, and that the student be provided an alternative educational program as provided by law. During the period of the expulsion the student who is the subject of this hearing shall not be allowed to enter any school property and/or participate in any school sponsored events and activities, except for educational purposes as determined by the Administration.

Above motion made by Dr. Brogis, seconded by Ms. Pataky. All in faovr.

4. Motion to adjourn the hearing, by Dr. Brogis, seconded by Ms. Pataky. All in favor. The Board adjourned the hearing at 6:08PM.
5. The Board recalled the meeting to order at 6:15PM.
6. Motion to go into executive session to discuss a confidential student matter, by Dr. Brogis, seconded by Ms. Pataky. All in favor.

The Board entered into executive session at 6:15PM.

The Board invited the following individuals (in addition to Board members and Board counsel, Richard Mills) into the executive session:

Denise Clemons, Superintendent

MaryAnn Buchanan, Principal

Mark Sommaruga, Attorney for the Administration

Student who is the subject of the hearing, the student's attorney and the student's mother and father

Everyone excused for Board deliberations, except for Board counsel, Richard Mills at 6:42PM.

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The Board returned to open session at 7:16PM.

Mr. Vergaro read the following proposed motion:

Moved that the Board adopt the signed stipulated agreement entered into the record by the Administration, the student and the student's parents. Accordingly, the student is expelled from the Torrington Public Schools, effective April 27, 2017 and continuing through April 27, 2018, subject to all of the terms and conditions set forth in the parties' signed stipulated agreement.

Above made by Dr. Brogis, seconded by Ms. Richardson. All in favor.

7. Motion to go into executive session to discuss a confidential student matter, by Dr. Brogis, seconded by Ms. Richardson, All in favor.

The Board entered into executive session at 7:18PM. The Board invited the same individuals as set forth for the preceding executive session.

The Board returned to open session at approximately 7:23PM.

8. Motion to adjourn the hearing, by Ms. Richardson, seconded by Dr. Brogis. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:24PM.