



Duval County Public Schools

August 11, 2009, Special Board Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearing

Ms. Betty Burney
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Chairman
Mr. Stan Jordan
Mr. W. C. Gentry
Ms. Nancy Broner
Ms. Vicki Drake
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Vice Chairman
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS SPECIAL MEETING OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD with Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools, Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Chairman, Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Vice Chairman, Ms. Nancy Broner, Board Member, Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member and Ms. Vicki Drake, Board Member, present. Board Members W. C. Gentry and Stan Jordan were absent.

Call Meeting To Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The Chairman called the Special meeting - Student Expulsion Hearing to order at 9:23 a.m.

Academic Services - Special Services

[EXPULSION OF D. O.](#)

Minutes:

Present:

Ms. Patricia Willis, Deputy Superintendent
Ms. Sonita Young, Office of Policy and Compliance
Ms.. Bea Lewis, Hearing Officer
Ms. Dana Kriznar, Executive Director, Alternative Ed/Behavioral Support
Ms. Gloria Lockley, General Director, Alternative Ed/Behavioral Support
Officer R.K. Williams, School Resource Officer, Ribault Middle School
Ms. Lya Crowden-Richardson, Teacher, Ribault Middle School
Mr. Larry Roziers, Executive Director for High Schools
Ms. Shateena Brown, Assistant Principal, Ribault Middle School
Mr. George Maxey, former Principal, Ribault Middle School
Mr. Deverick Oglesby, Parent
D.O., Student

Ms. Bea Lewis, Hearing Officer, distributed informative information regarding the following:

D.O., a 14 year old student at Ribault Middle School, was charged with a 4.08 - Possession of a Firearm. On May 21, 2009, following an incident with a student, school administrators located D.O. and confiscated her book bag. The School Resource Officer searched the book bag and found a loaded black pistol with the seven (7) bullets in the clip and one (1) bullet in the chamber.

Due to the seriousness of D.O.'s offense and the requirements of 18 U.S.C. 921, to expel students who possess a firearm at school, it is recommended that D.O. be expelled for all of the 2009-2010 school year.

Florida Statutes 1006.13, Policy of Zero Tolerance for Crime and Victimization, states that each district School Board shall adopt a policy of Zero Tolerance. The Zero Tolerance Policy shall require students found to have committed one of the following offenses to be expelled, with or without continuing educational services, from the student's regular school for a period of not less than one (1) full year, and to be referred to the criminal juvenile justice system.

(a) Bringing a firearm or weapon, as defined in Chapter 790, to school,, to any school function, or possessing a firearm at school.

The Duval County Code of Student Conduct establishes the School Board's policy on Zero Tolerance offenses. Code 4.08, Possession of Firearms, states that any student who is determined to have brought a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. 921, to school, to any school function, or on any school-sponsored transportation will be referred for criminal prosecution.

Speakers:

Mr. Deverick Oglesby, Parent
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Chairman
D.O., Student
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Vice Chairman

Ms. Shateena Brown, Assistant Principal, Ribault Middle School
Ms. Dana Kriznar, Executive Director, Alternative Ed/Behavioral Support
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools
Ms. Bea Lewis, Hearing Officer
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member

Mr. Oglesby said he contacted the school on numerous occasions requesting a conference between all the students involved and their parents. This never materialized.

D.O. stated that she was never going to shoot anyone and that she didn't know the gun was loaded. She knew it was wrong taking the gun to school.

Speakers:

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Chairman
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Vice Chairman
Ms. Nancy Broner, Board Member
D.O., Student
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member
Ms. Shateena Brown, Assistant Principal, Ribault Middle School
Ms. Vicki Drake, Board Member
Mr. George Maxey, former Principal, Ribault Middle School
Mr. Deverick Oglesby, Parent
Officer R.K. Williams, School Resource Office, Ribault Middle School

Superintendent Pratt-Dannals said the district's recommendation is that D.O. be assigned to Grand Park for the entire 2009-2010 school year with educational services.

Speakers:

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Chairman
Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Vice Chairman
Ms. Shateena Brown, Assistant Principal, Ribault Middle School
D.O., Student
Mr. Deverick Oglesby, Parent
Ms. Nancy Broner, Board Member
Ms. Sonita Young, Office of Policy and Compliance
Ms. Dana Kriznar, Executive Director, Alternative Ed/Behavioral Support

Mr. Oglesby asked if D.O. would be allowed to attend the PACE for Girls school and Ms. Kriznar stated that PACE was one of our alternative schools.

Ms. Broner said she feels that D.O. should be placed in an alternative setting for the 2009-2010 school year and that the findings regarding the expulsion be pending and brought back to the Board by April, 2010 for a status overview and continue this hearing. Our goal is to get D.O. some intervention and continue your education. This would create some flexibility. I would like that to be communicated clearly to any potential school. That would satisfy our desire to make sure D.O. continues her education.

Speakers:

Ms. Brenda Priestly Jackson, Vice Chairman
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Chairman
Ms. Nancy Broner, Board Member
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Member

Ms. Young said what I understand you to say is that through the hearing process, place the student in an alternative setting, then the Board would be continuing the hearing. You would need to vote on to continue the hearing. The placement would not be a product of the expulsion process. The placement would be through the hearing process because D.O. had a Code of Conduct infraction so we can place the student in an alternative setting. Further stated, to obtain jurisdiction, we would be continuing this hearing.

Speaker:

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Chairman

Ms. Broner said the motion would simply be to *continue the hearing* until we reconvene in April, 2010 for further information.

Ms. Burney seconded the motion.

Vote: PASS

Motion: Nancy Broner
Second: Betty Burney

Broner - Aye
Burney - Aye
Drake - Aye
Hazouri - Nay
Priestly Jackson - Aye

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The Special meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.

Isd

Superintendent

Chairman