



## Duval County Public Schools

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December 12, 2011, Special Board Meeting - Student Expulsion Hearings

Ms. Betty Burney, Chairman  
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Vice Chairman  
Ms. Martha Barrett  
Ms. Becki Couch  
Mr. W. C. Gentry  
Mr. Tommy Hazouri  
Ms. Paula D. Wright  
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent

ATTENDANCE AT THIS SPECIAL MEETING - STUDENT EXPULSION HEARINGS - OF THE DUVAL COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD with Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chair, Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Vice Chair and the following Board members: Ms. Becki Couch, Mr. W. C. Gentry, Mr. Tommy Hazouri and Ms. Paula D. Wright, were present.

Call Meeting To Order

[CALL MEETING TO ORDER](#)

Minutes:

The Chair called the Special meeting to order at 9:24 a.m.

Alternative Education - Behavioral Support

[1. EXPULSION OF D.B.](#)

Minutes:

*(NOTE: D.B. is presently incarcerated at the Youth Offenders Program for nine months in St. Johns County and was not present at this hearing.)*

Present:

Ms. Patricia Willis, Deputy Superintendent  
Dr. Dana Krisnar, Executive Director,, Alternative Ed/Behavioral Support  
Ms. Sonita Young, Executive Director, Policy and Compliance  
Ms. Gloria Lockley, General Director, Alternative Ed/Behavioral Support  
Ms. Bea Lewis, Hearing Officer  
Dr. Terri Stahlman, Chief Officer of Technology  
Mr. Tyler Loehnert, Director, Real Property  
Mr. Tim Ballentine, Executive Director, Instructional Research & Accountability  
Officer Johnny Mike, Police Security  
Mr. Michael Mayrant, Father  
Ms. Latasha Brantley, Mother  
Mr. Cunard Brantley, Uncle  
Ms. Jerry Brantley, Grandmother  
JSO Officer E. A. Jaworski  
SRO Officer J. M. Shouse  
Dr. David Garner, Principal, Wolfson High School  
Mr. Y. Joinville, Assistant Principal, Wolfson High School

Ms. Lewis distributed pertinent information regarding the following:

D.B., a 15 year old student at Wolfson High School, was charged with a 4.08 - Possession of a Firearm. On June 2, 2011, D.B. brought a handgun to Wolfson High School.

Florida Statute 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 expelled, with or without continuing educational services, from the student's regular school for a period not less than one (1) full year. The expulsion requirement is subject to modification, on a case-by-case basis, as allowed by law. A student who is determined to have brought a firearm to school will be referred for criminal prosecution.

Due to the seriousness of D.B.'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.B. be

expelled for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year with continuing educational services.

Speakers:

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member  
Ms. Latasha Brantley, Mother  
SRO Officer J. Shouse  
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member  
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chair  
Mr. Michael Mayrant, Father  
Ms. Jerry Brantley, Grandmother  
Mr. Cunard Brantley, Uncle  
Dr. Dana Krisnar, Executive Director, Alternative Ed/Behavioral Support  
Dr. David Garner, Principal, Wolfson High School  
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member  
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Vice Chairman

Mr. Hazouri offered a motion to adopt the Superintendent's recommendation that D.B. be expelled for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year and to provide an update to the Board regarding his status.

Mr. Lee seconded the motion.

*(Board Member Paula Wright was absent from this hearing.)*

Vote: PASS 5-0

Motion: Tommy Hazouri  
Second: Fred "Fel" Lee

Betty Burney - Aye  
Becki Couch - Aye  
W.C. Gentry - Aye  
Tommy Hazouri - Aye  
Fred "Fel" Lee - Aye

2. EXPULSION OF J.A.

Minutes:

Present: *(Same district staff - Board Member Paula D. Wright was present for this hearing)*

Dr. Edward Robinson, Principal, Ribault Middle School  
Ms. Vivian Forshee, Assistant Principal, Ribault Middle School  
Ms. Aldrena Edwards, St. Paul ATOSS Lead  
SRO Officer T. Lawton, Ribault Middle School  
SRO Officer B. Brown, Ribault Middle School

Mr. Robert Williams, Security Guard, Ribault Middle School  
Mr. Phillip Anderson, Father  
Ms. Danita Anderson, Mother  
Ms. Linda Dayson, Hurting Families with Children in Crime, Inc.  
Mr. Robert L. Dove, Hurting Families with Children in Crime, Inc.  
Ms. Eunice Barnum  
J.A., Student

Ms. Lewis distributed pertinent information regarding the following:

J.A., a 14 year old student at Ribault Middle School was charged with a 4.08 - Possession of a Firearm. On Thursday, November 10, 2011, J.A. brought a handgun to the ATOSS Center and Ribault Middle School.

Florida Statute 1006.13, Policy of Zero Tolerance from 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 expelled, with or without continuing educational services, from the student's regular school for a period not less than one (1) full year. The expulsion requirement is subject to modification, on a case-by-case basis, as allowed by law. A student who is determined to have brought a firearm to school will be referred for criminal prosecution.

Due to the seriousness of J.A.'s offense and the requirements of 18 U.S.C. 921, to expel students who possess a firearm at school, it is recommended that J.A. be expelled for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year and all of the 2012-2013 school year with continuing educational services.

Speakers:

Ms. Bea Lewis, Hearing Officer  
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member  
SRO Officer T. Lawton  
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chair  
J.A., Student  
Mr. Phillip Anderson, Father  
Ms. Danita Anderson, Mother  
Dr. Edward Robinson, Principal, Ribault Middle School  
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member  
Ms. Paula D. Wright, Board Member

Ms. Aldrena Edwards, ATOSS  
Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Vice Chairman  
Mr. Robert Williams, Security Guard

Mr. Gentry offered a motion to accept the Superintendent's recommendation that J.A. be expelled for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year and all of the 2012-2013 school year with continuing educational services.

Ms. Couch seconded the motion.

Vote: PASS 6-0

Betty Burney - Aye  
Becki Couch - Aye  
W. C. Gentry - Aye  
Tommy Hazouri - Aye  
Fred "Fel" Lee - Aye  
Paula D. Wright - Aye

Speakers:

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member  
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member

Mr. Gentry said we need to inquire about this case and provide additional information to us. The parents made a correct point. If an adult at the school knew the student had a gun on campus, the parents should have been notified immediately. There should have been documentation and follow through; even a report. Please follow up on this.

Ms. Wright said there needs to be an investigation between the middle and high school students.

Mr. Hazouri said "ditto" to what Mr. Gentry stated and it applies to the entire district; we should have done more.

Speakers:

Ms. Linda Dayson, Hurting Families with Children in Crime, Inc.  
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chair  
Ms. Eunice Barnum

[3. EXPULSION OF R.C.](#)

Minutes:

Present: *Same district staff present)*

Ms. Shilene Singleton, Principal, Jefferson Davis Middle School  
Ms. Claire St. Amand, Assistant Principal, Jefferson Davis Middle School  
SRO Officer Gilsenan, Jefferson Davis Middle School

Ms. Faith Jackson, Mother  
R.C., Student

Ms. Lewis distributed pertinent information regarding the following:

R. C., a 16 year old student at Jefferson Davis Middle School was charged with a 4.08 - Possession of a Firearm. On March 11, 2011, R.C. brought a handgun to school.

Florida Statute 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 expelled, with or without continuing educational services, from the student's regular school for a period not less than one (1) full year. The expulsion requirement is subject to modification, on a case-by-case basis, as allowed by law. A student who is determined to have brought a firearm to school will be referred for criminal prosecution.

Due to the seriousness of R.C.'s offense and the requirements of 18 U.S.C. 921 to expel students who possess a firearm at school, it is recommended that R.C. be expelled for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year with continuing educational services.

Speakers:

Ms. Bea Lewis, Hearing Officer  
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chair  
Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member  
R. C., Student  
Ms. Faith Jackson, Mother  
Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member  
Ms. Shilene Singleton, Principal, Jefferson Davis Middle School  
Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member

Mr. Gentry offered a motion to uphold the Superintendent's recommendation to expel R.C. for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year with continuing educational services at an alternative school. Additionally, we need to take into account the situation with Nathaniel Grier as I feel this is a disaster waiting to happen.

Mr. Lee seconded the motion.

Speakers:

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member  
Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools  
Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chair

Board Member Couch recommended that when the expulsion has been served, to not put R.C. and Nathaniel Grier back into the same school.

Speakers:

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member  
R.C., Student  
Ms. Shilene Singleton, Principal, Jefferson Davis Middle School

*(Board Member Paula Wright was not present at this hearing.)*

Vote: PASS 5-0

Motion: W. C. Gentry  
Second: Fred "Fel" Lee

Betty Burney - Aye  
Becki Couch - Aye  
W. C. Gentry - Aye  
Tommy Hazouri - Aye  
Fred "Fel" Lee - Aye

4. EXPULSION OF R.K.

Minutes:

Present: *(Same district staff)*

Ms. Rhonda Motley, Principal, Baldwin Jr./Sr. High School  
Ms. Alex Marx, Assistant Principal, Baldwin Jr./Sr. High School  
SRO Officer A. Thomas, Baldwin Jr./Sr. High School  
Mr. Raymond Kennedy, Father  
R.K., Student

Ms. Lewis distributed pertinent information regarding the following:

R.K., a 14 year old student at Baldwin Jr./Sr. High School was charged with a 4.12 - Explosives. On September 21, 2011, R.K. mixed items that created an explosion in a classroom.

Florida Statute 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 Justice system.

Due to the seriousness of R.K.'s offense and the requirements of 18 U.S.C. 921, to expel students who possess an explosive device at school, it is recommended that R.K., be expelled for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year and all of the 2012-2013 school year with continuing educational services.

Speakers:

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chair

R.K., Student

Mr. Raymond Kennedy, Father

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member

Ms. Rhonda Motley, Principal, Baldwin Jr./Sr. High School

Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member

Dr. Dana Kriznar, Executive Director, Alternative Ed/Behavioral Support

SRO Officer A. Thomas, Baldwin Jr./Sr. High School

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member

Mr. Gentry offered a motion to approve an expulsion with continuing services for the remainder of the 2011-2012 school year. During the term of the expulsion, the student shall be assigned to Duval Virtual Instruction Academy and be required to participate in the district's Restorative Justice program. Upon completion of the expulsion, the student shall be permitted to return to a traditional school to be determined by the Superintendent.

Mr. Hazouri seconded the motion.

*(Board Member Paula Wright was absent from this hearing.)*

Vote: PASS 5-0

Motion: W. C. Gentry

Second: Tommy Hazouri

Betty Burney - Aye

Becki Couch - Aye

W. C. Gentry - Aye

Tommy Hazouri - Aye

Fred "Fel" Lee - Aye

Speakers:

Ms. Sonita Young, Executive Director, Policy and Compliance

Ms. Becki Couch, Board Member

Mr. Ed Pratt-Dannals, Superintendent of Schools

Mr. Tommy Hazouri, Board Member

Mr. Raymond Kennedy, Father

Ms. Betty Burney, Board Chair

Mr. Fred "Fel" Lee, Vice Chairman

Mr. W. C. Gentry, Board Member

Adjournment

ADJOURNMENT

Minutes:

The Special meeting adjourned at 1:13 p.m.

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Superintendent

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Chairman