

MINUTES
Special Board Meeting
Student Matter
Almont Community Schools Board of Education

January 7, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

President Hoffa called the Special Meeting of the Almont Community Schools Board of Education to order at 7:00 p.m. at the Almont Elementary School.

Present

Steven Hoffa, Nancy Boxey, John Brzozowski, Scott Kmetz, Stephan Manko , John Miles and Superintendent Joseph Candela.

Visitors: Mr. Woelkers and Mr. LaCavera

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL: Jonathan Owens absent

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Agenda was revised to conduct business in open session

QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS: AUDIENCE

None

Student Discipline Matter

Mr. Hoffa noted that in the absence of the student, parent or representative of the same, he would dispense with the full explanation of the meeting procedures as there would be no testimony provided by them.

High School Principal Tim Woelkers represented the administration and presented the evidence outlining the case for Student 15380. Mr. Woelkers outlined the incident, disciplinary background and responses by administration and staff.

Mr. Candela read the letter sent to the parents sent by Mr. Woelkers via certified mail outlining the procedures and parental rights and timeline for disciplinary action and student hearing.

There were no witnesses called or cross-examination conducted .

Mr. Woelkers put forth that it is the recommendation of the Almont Community School's administration that Student 15380 be permanently expelled.

Board Questions

Mr. Miles asked if there would be any reason to believe that the evidence presented by staff and administration would be untrue. Mr. Woelkers indicated, "No."

Mr. Miles asked if there is any reason to believe that staying in school would be a better choice for this student. Mr. Woelkers stated that he was most bothered by the callousnesses and lack of remorse on the part of the student. He believes that there is a high likelihood and potential for this student to act out again in the future and that the safety of other students would be at risk.

Mr. Kmetz asked for confirmation that the parent fully understood the charges, opportunity for appeal and process of the student hearing. Mr. Woelkers stated that in addition to the official letters being sent home and the verification of receipt of the same as it was signed for, he had personally spoken with the parent by telephone prior to the letter being sent outlining the process.

No further questions of the administration were asked by Board members.

Motion to Expel Student

Motion by Boxey, supported by Brzozowski that the Almont Board of Education permanently expel student 15380 from Almont Community Schools.

Roll Call Vote:

Ayes: Miles, Brzozowski, Kmetz, Manko, Boxey, Hoffa
(P), 18, 6-0-0

Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 7:16 p.m.

Approved _____
Date

Signed: _____
Nancy Boxey, Secretary

Signed: _____
Steve Hoffa, President