

COVENTRY BOARD OF EDUCATION
COVENTRY, CONNECTICUT

MINUTES OF THE EXPULSION COMMITTEE MEETING

Monday, November 21, 2011 – 8:00 p.m.
Administration Building Conference Room
Student ID # 2011-12-05

PRESENT: G. Marchand, J. Beausoleil, D. Ryan
Board of Education Expulsion Committee

ADMINISTRATORS: Paul Smotas, Ph.D., Interim Superintendent of Schools
Barbara Trinks, Director of Pupil & Staff Support Services
Michele Mullaly, Principal of Coventry High School
Steve Merlino, Assistant Principal of Coventry High School

OTHERS: Student ID # 2011-2012-05
Family of Student ID # 2011-2012-05
Leander Dolphin, Board Attorney
Coventry Police Officer Gail McDonnell

A meeting of the Expulsion Committee of the Coventry Board of Education was held on November 21, 2011, in the Administration Building Conference Room to consider and act on the expulsion of a minor student ID # 2011-2012-05 at Coventry High School for violation of Policies #5144 Student Discipline and # 5131.6 Drug and Alcohol Use by Students. The meeting was called to order at 8:05 p.m.

MOVED by J. Beausoleil, **SECONDED** by D. Ryan at 8:05 p.m. that the Committee go into Executive Session with Administrators, student ID #2011-2012-05 and the student's family pursuant to CGS 10-233d, the expulsion of a minor student. **RESULT:** Motion passes unanimously.

At 8:23 p.m. at the conclusion of listening to testimony, the student, the administration, and the student's family leave the meeting while the Board deliberates.

The Committee came out of Executive Session and returned to Open Session at 8:52 p.m.

MOVED by J. Beausoleil, **SECONDED** by D. Ryan, at 8:53 p.m., that the Board of Education finds that the student, who is the subject of this hearing, did engage in the following conduct: possessing marijuana and smoking it on school grounds, threatening school administration and damaging school property. This conduct violated publicized policies of the Board, and constitutes an expellable offence. **RESULT:** Motion passes unanimously.

MOVED by J. Beausoleil, **SECONDED** by D. Ryan that the Committee reconvene to Executive Session at 8:57 p.m. **RESULT:** Motion passes unanimously.

The Committee came out of Executive Session and returned to Open Session at 9:30 p.m.

MOVED by J. Beausoleil **SECONDED** by D. Ryan, at 9:30 p.m., that the student who is the subject of this hearing shall be expelled from all school property and school sponsored events for one calendar year, and that during this period, the student shall be offered an alternative educational opportunity to be determined by the administration. The student and his family shall apply for early readmission to school with the Superintendent by January 30, 2012, and provide documentation of compliance with the following conditions:

- 1) He submits and passes bi-weekly drug tests between November 21, 2011 and January 30, 2012;
- 2) He undergoes counseling between November 21, 2011 and January 30, 2012; the therapist must provide a report of the student's progress to the Superintendent.

If the student complies with these conditions to the satisfaction of the Superintendent, he may be readmitted to school on February 1, 2012 on probation until November 21, 2012.

The conditions of the probation are as follows:

- 1) The student must not commit any suspendable offense while on probation. If the student commits such offense, he shall be expelled for the remainder of the expulsion term, without the need to convene an expulsion hearing
- 2) The student shall complete 40 hours of community service prior to August 15, 2012.
- 3) The Board recommends that the family consider the student's participation in the Connecticut Wilderness School.

RESULT: Motion passes unanimously.

MOVED by J. Beausoleil, **SECONDED** by D. Ryan at 9:30 p.m., to adjourn the meeting.

RESULT: Motion passes unanimously.

Submitted by,

Eugene Marchand, Chairman
Expulsion Committee