

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION SPECIAL MEETING
LASALLE- PERU TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT # 120
OCTOBER 6, 2021, 6:00 P.M.

CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mr. Tony Sparks, President, called to order the Regular Meeting at 6:00 p.m. The meeting was held in the Board Conference Room, LaSalle-Peru Township High School, 541 Chartres Street, LaSalle, IL 61301.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mr. Tony Sparks, President, Mr. Greg Sarver, Vice President, Mrs. Carol Alcorn, Dr. Rose Marie Lynch, Mrs. Sally Taliani, Mr. Matt Merboth and Mr. Gary Ferrari.

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Steven Wroblewski, Superintendent, Attorney Walt Zukowski, Mr. Jayce Eutice, News Tribune Reporter and Mrs. Julie Bleck, Board Secretary.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of Intergovernmental Agreement with Dimmick C.C.S.D. #174, Illinois Valley Community College, and the County of LaSalle with the intent to intervene in the property tax appeal board proceedings for Parcel # 11-33-300-008 (KIN, Inc. D/B/A Kohl's Illinois)

MOTION by Mr. Ferrari, seconded by Mrs. Alcorn to approve of Intergovernmental Agreement with Dimmick C.C.S.D. #174, Illinois Valley Community College, and the County of LaSalle with the intent to intervene in the property tax appeal board proceedings for Parcel # 11-33-300-008 (KIN, Inc. D/B/A Kohl's Illinois) as presented. Voting Aye: Mr. Ferrari, Mrs. Alcorn, Mr. Sarver, Dr. Lynch, Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani and Mr. Sparks. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval to submit FY 2022 School Maintenance Project Grant Application to the Illinois State Board of Education

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mrs. Taliani to approve to submit FY 2022 School Maintenance Project Grant Application to the Illinois State Board of Education as presented. Voting Aye: Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Sarver, Mrs. Alcorn, Dr. Lynch, Mr. Ferrari and Mr. Sparks. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 7-0.**

MOTION TO MOVE TO EXECUTIVE CLOSED SESSION

MOTION by Mr. Sarver, seconded by Dr. Lynch to move to executive/closed session for the purpose of:

- a) Student Discipline, with open session and possible action items to follow.

Voting Aye: Mr. Sarver, Dr. Lynch, Mrs. Alcorn, Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Ferrari and Mr. Sparks. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 7-0. Time 6:03 p.m.**

MOTION TO RETURN TO OPEN SESSION

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Dr. Lynch to return to open session. Voting Aye: Mrs. Alcorn, Dr. Lynch, Mr. Sarver, Mr. Merboth, Mrs. Taliani, Mr. Ferrari and Mr. Sparks. Voting Nay: None. **The motion carried 7-0. Time 6:50 p.m.**

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Mr. Tony Sparks, President, Mr. Greg Sarver, Vice President, Mrs. Carol Alcorn, Dr. Rose Marie Lynch, Mrs. Sally Taliani, Mr. Matt Merboth and Mr. Gary Ferrari.

ABSENT: None

OTHERS PRESENT: Dr. Steven Wroblewski, Superintendent, Attorney Walt Zukowski, Mr. Jayce Eutice, News Tribune Reporter and Mrs. Julie Bleck, Board Secretary.

NEW BUSINESS

Student Transfer, Safe Schools-Student #3

MOTION by Mrs. Taliani, seconded by Mr. Ferrari to recommend that the Board to approve the transfer of Student #3, as a student eligible for expulsion, to the LaSalle County Regional Office of Education Safe Schools Program (hereafter the "Program") in lieu of expulsion through the end of the 2021-2022 with a possible return to the District for the Fall Semester of 2022 based upon the outcome of the placement meeting at the Program to be conducted in May of 2022, all on the condition that the parent(s) of the student cooperate with the transfer and that the transfer is completed. If the parent(s) do not cooperate with the transfer, or if the transfer is not completed, or if the student is returned to the District by the Program prior to the end of the 2021-2022 school year, then the student is to be expelled from October 7, 2021 through the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Such action is appropriate due to the student's role in physical altercations (fighting) with two students in separate situations on the same day, thereby endangering students, staff and visitors (a mother and infant); assaulting (shoving) a staff member; use of vulgar language to staff and students; and gross insubordination to staff.

In support of this motion the Board finds as follows:

- The student's behavior at issue this evening indicates that he poses a threat to the safety of other students, staff, and members of the District community.
- The student has a history of misbehavior in the District, for which he previously had been disciplined. Student #3 in 2021-2022 has had 8 disciplinary referrals for this school year. This includes a 10-day out-of-school suspension for fighting/battery, assault (shoving) of a staff member, use of multiple profane words towards staff and students, gross insubordination, gross disrespect and endangerment of other students, staff, and visitors at L-P High School. In 2020-2021 Student #3 had 3 discipline referrals with no suspensions. Student #3 is currently a sophomore at LaSalle-Peru High School with 5 credits earned towards graduation.
- In light of such behavior removal to the Program (or, if that is not possible, expulsion) is in the best interest of the District. The student otherwise remaining in the District would pose a threat to the safety of other students, staff, and members of the school community.
- The administration has determined that placement at the Program in lieu of expulsion is the appropriate intervention if it can be accomplished with the cooperation of the parent(s).
- Based upon communication with the Administration, the Board determines that if the transfer to the Program is not possible then no other appropriate and available disciplinary interventions short of the recommended expulsion period exist since all such interventions, including suspension, have been exhausted.

NEW BUSINESS

Student Transfer, Safe Schools- Student #4

MOTION by Mr. Merboth, seconded by Mr. Sparks to recommend that the Board to approve the transfer of Student #4, as a student eligible for expulsion, to the LaSalle County Regional Office of Education Safe Schools Program (hereafter the "Program") in lieu of expulsion through the end of the 2021-2022 with a possible return to the District for the Fall Semester of 2022 based upon the outcome of the placement meeting at the Program to be conducted in May of 2022, all on the condition that the parent(s) of the student

cooperate with the transfer and that the transfer is completed. If the parent(s) do not cooperate with the transfer, or if the transfer is not completed, or if the student is returned to the District by the Program prior to the end of the 2021-2022 school year, then the student is to be expelled from October 7, 2021 through the end of the 2021-2022 school year. Such action is appropriate due to the student's role in physical altercations (fighting) with two students in separate situations on the same day, thereby endangering students, staff and visitors (a mother and infant); throwing of a shoe and thereby endangering students, staff and visitors; use of vulgar language to staff and students; and gross insubordination to staff.

In support of this decision the Board finds as follows and presented:

- The student's behavior at issue this evening indicates that he poses a threat to the safety of other students, staff, and members of the District community.
- The student has a history of misbehavior in the District, for which he previously had been disciplined. Student #4 in 2021-2022 has had 9 disciplinary referrals for this school year. This includes a 10-day out-of-school suspension, for fighting/battery, use of multiple profane words towards staff and students, gross insubordination, gross disrespect and endangerment of other students, staff, and visitors at L-P High School. Student #4 absences have been excused (2) and unexcused (4). In 2020-2021 Student #4 had 4 discipline referrals with no suspensions. Student #4 is currently a sophomore at LaSalle-Peru High School with 1.5 credits earned towards graduation.
- In light of such behavior removal to the Program (or, if that is not possible, expulsion) is in the best interest of the District. The student otherwise remaining in the District would pose a threat to the safety of other students, staff, and members of the school community.
- The administration has determined that placement at the Program in lieu of expulsion is the appropriate intervention if it can be accomplished with the cooperation of the parent(s).
- Based upon communication with the Administration, the Board determines that if the transfer to the Program is not possible then no other appropriate and available disciplinary interventions short of the recommended expulsion period exist since all such interventions, including suspension, have been exhausted.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION by Mrs. Alcorn, seconded by Mr. Merboth to adjourn. All in favor, Aye.

The motion carried 7-0. Time: 6:58 p.m.



Tony Sparks
President



Julie Bleek
Board Secretary