



## Board of Education Special Meeting

Tuesday, March 7, 2023 6:00 PM

Board Meeting Room  
Administrative Offices  
137 B Glenwood Road  
Clinton, CT 06413

Attendance Taken at 6:05 PM.

|                     |         |
|---------------------|---------|
| Jason Adler:        | Absent  |
| Erica Gelven:       | Present |
| Michael Hornyak:    | Present |
| Peter Nye:          | Absent  |
| Alan Samet:         | Present |
| Jack Scherban:      | Present |
| Catherine Staunton: | Present |

### 1.Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairperson Erica Gelven at 6:05 PM.

### 2.Executive Session Anticipated for a Confidential Student Matter

At 6:06 PM Erica Gelven moved that the Board enter into executive session for the purpose of conducting a student expulsion hearing during which matters of personal privacy of one or more students enrolled in the Clinton Public Schools were likely to be discussed by name, and during which educational records not subject to disclosure under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act were likely to be discussed and further moved that the following individuals be invited into the executive session:

- Attorney Zachary Schurin, procedural advisor to the Board;
- The student;
- The student's parent;
- Attorney Anne Littlefield, representing the Administration;
- Superintendent Maryann O'Donnell;
- The Morgan School Principal Keri Hagness;
- The Morgan School Assistant Principal Chris Luther.

Seconded by Mike Hornyak

Ayes 6

Nays 0

At 7:06 PM the Board returned to open session and at 7:07 PM Erica Gelven moved that the Board once again enter into executive session for the purpose of continuing a student expulsion hearing during which matters of personal privacy of one or more students enrolled in the Clinton Public Schools were likely to be discussed by name, and during which educational records not subject to disclosure under the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act were likely to be discussed and further moved that the following individuals be invited into the executive session:

Attorney Zachary Schurin, procedural advisor to the Board;  
The student;  
The student's parent;  
Attorney Anne Littlefield, representing the Administration;  
Superintendent Maryann O'Donnell;  
The Morgan School Principal Keri Hagness;  
The Morgan School Assistant Principal Chris Luther;  
A student witness;  
The student witness' grandmother.

Seconded by Mike Hornyak

Ayes 6

Nays 0

At 7:23 PM the student witness and the student witness' grandmother were excused from the executive session.

At 7:57 PM Assistant Principal Luther was excused from the executive session.

### **3.Possible Action for a Confidential Student Matter**

The Board returned to open session at 8:36 PM at which time the following motions were made and seconded:

Motion # 1: Erica Gelven moved that the Board of Education adopt the findings of fact discussed in executive session regarding the student who was the subject of the expulsion hearing.

Seconded by Alan Samet

Ayes 6

Nays 0

Motion # 2: Erica Gelven moved that as a consequence of the factual findings adopted by the Board of Education, that the student who was the subject of the expulsion hearing be expelled from the Clinton Public Schools and from all school-sponsored activities, either curricular or extracurricular, either on school grounds or at another location, from February 22, 2023 until the first day of the third quarter of the 2023-24 school year and that during the period of expulsion, the student be provided with an Alternative Educational Opportunity determined by the Superintendent of Schools.

Notwithstanding the foregoing, the student may apply for readmission to school on the first day of the 2023-24 school year and may remain in school on a probationary basis if the student satisfies the following conditions:

1. Full and adequate participation in any offered alternative educational opportunity, including but not limited to no unexcused absences;

2. No violations of the law or conduct that would constitute grounds for suspension or expulsion under publicized Board policies;
3. Good behavior and attendance in the alternative educational opportunity;
4. Evidence of anger management counseling during the period of exclusion, in a form and frequency satisfactory to the Superintendent (or designee), with the student's parents granting and maintaining permission to the counselor to permit the counselor to exchange information with educators working with the student and the administration of The Morgan School and the Clinton Public Schools;
5. Compliance with any conditions set by the juvenile court related to the student's arrest for the conduct that led to the hearing;
6. Completion of a re-entry meeting with the Superintendent (or designee) and a representative of The Morgan School on or about the week of August 15, 2023, at which time the Superintendent (or designee) will review the student's performance in his alternative academic program, his participation in counseling, and compliance with court requirements to determine whether to allow the student to return to school beginning on the first day of school for the 2023-2024 school year.

The determination as to whether the student has met the above conditions shall be at the sole discretion of the Superintendent of Schools (or designee) with the stipulation that if the student is readmitted early, the student must continue to satisfy all applicable conditions set forth above, and if the student fails to satisfy these conditions the Superintendent may reinstate any unserved period of expulsion without the need to convene a hearing or otherwise commence new disciplinary proceedings.

Seconded by Alan Samet  
Ayes 6  
Nays 0

Motion # 3: Erica Gelven moved that the Board of Education authorize its procedural advisor to send the parties a letter setting forth the Board's decision as discussed in executive session.

Seconded by Alan Samet  
Ayes 6  
Nays 0

#### **4.Adjournment**

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:41 PM. All in favor.