

The Enclosures referred to in the Agenda are available for inspection at each of the three Public Libraries in Fairfield, Fairfield Public Schools' website <http://www.fairfieldschools.org/> and the Education Center, 501 Kings Highway East.

THE PUBLIC IS REQUESTED TO SILENCE DEVICES FOR THE DURATION OF THE MEETING

Board of Education, Fairfield Public Schools
501 Kings Highway East, 2nd Floor Board Conference Room
September 9, 2014
REGULAR MEETING
7:30 p.m.

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

2. Pledge of Allegiance

3. Public Comments and Petitions

*During this period the Board will hear comments and receive petitions from any citizen present at the meeting. Any single presentation must be limited to two minutes, and audio-visual equipment cannot be used without the advance authorization of the Chairman. **The Board will not hear comment on individual personnel matters or comments addressed to a specific member(s) of the Board.** Decorum will be enforced. Citizens are asked to comment on any voting item at the time the item is under consideration by the Board.*

4. Presentations

A. Presentation of Long-Range Facilities Plan, Dr. Title and Mr. Cullen
(Enclosure No. 1)

5. New Business

A. First Reading of Policy 5119 – Students - Student Discipline – Suspension/Expulsion
(Enclosure No. 2)

B. First Reading of Policy 5510- Students – Welfare – Health Assessments
(Enclosure No. 3)

6. Approval of Minutes

A. Approval of Minutes of August 26, 2014 **Special Meeting**
Recommended Motion: "that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the **Special Meeting** of August 26, 2014"

(Enclosure No. 4)

B. Approval of Minutes of August 26, 2014 **Regular Meeting**
Recommended Motion: "that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the **Regular Meeting** of August 26, 2014"

(Enclosure No. 5)

7. Superintendent Report
 - A. Opening of School Update, Dr. Title
 - B. Long-Range District Improvement Plan (Step 1), Dr. Title
(Enclosure No. 6)
 - C. Other
8. Committee/Liaison Reports
9. Open Board Comment
10. Convene to Executive Session
Recommended Motion: "that the Board of Education convene to Executive Session to discuss records, reports and statements of strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining in accordance with Connecticut General Statute CGS 1-210(b)(9) and invite Mrs. Ann Leffert as appropriate; and to discuss Superintendent Evaluation"
11. Adjournment
Recommended Motion: "that this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education adjourn"

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

September 23, 2014	Board of Education Regular Meeting 7:30 pm	501 Kings Hwy East Board Room
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RELOCATION POLICY NOTICE

The Fairfield Public Schools System provides services to ensure students, parents and other persons have access to meetings, programs and activities. The School System will relocate programs in order to ensure accessibility of programs and activities to disabled persons. To make arrangements please contact Pupil & Special Education Services, 501 Kings Highway East, Fairfield, CT 06825, Telephone: (203) 255-8379

Fairfield Public Schools
Board of Education

ENCLOSURE NO. 1
SEP 09 2014

September 9, 2014

Please use the following link for Enclosure #1

[http://cdn.fairfieldschools.org/business-services/facilities/Fairfield Public Schools-DRAFT-Facilities Plan and Waterfall Chart-9 9 14.pdf](http://cdn.fairfieldschools.org/business-services/facilities/Fairfield_Public_Schools-DRAFT-Facilities_Plan_and_Waterfall_Chart-9_9_14.pdf)

SEP 09 2014

Students**STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION****5119****I. Definitions**

- A. **Emergency** means a situation in which the continued presence of the student in school poses such a danger to persons or property or such a disruption of the educational process that a hearing may be delayed until a time as soon after the exclusion of such student as possible.
- B. **Exclusion** means any denial of public school privileges to a student for disciplinary purposes.
- C. **Expulsion** means the exclusion of a student from school privileges for more than ten (10) consecutive school days. The expulsion period may not extend beyond one calendar year.
- D. **Removal** is the exclusion of a student for a class period of ninety (90) minutes or less.
- E. **School Days** shall mean days when school is in session for students.
- F. **School-Sponsored Activity** means any activity sponsored, recognized or authorized by the Board and includes activities conducted on or off school property.
- G. **Seriously Disruptive of the Educational Process** means any conduct that markedly interrupts or severely impedes the day-to-day operation of a school.
- H. **Suspension** means the exclusion of a student from school and/or transportation services for not more than ten (10) consecutive school days, provided such suspension shall not extend beyond the end of the school year in which such suspension is imposed; and further provided no student shall be suspended more than ten (10) times or a total of fifty (50) days in one school year, whichever results in fewer days of exclusion, unless such student is granted a formal hearing as provided below. Suspensions pursuant to this Policy shall be in-school suspensions unless during the hearing held pursuant to Section V of this Policy, (1) the administration determines that the pupil being suspended poses such a danger to persons or property or such a disruption of the educational process that the pupil shall be excluded from school during the period of suspension, or (2) the administration determines that an out-of-school suspension is appropriate for such pupil based on evidence of (A) previous disciplinary problems that have led to suspensions or expulsion of such pupil, and (B) efforts by the administration to address such disciplinary problems through means other than out-of-school

Students

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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suspension or expulsion, including positive behavioral support strategies. An in-school suspension may be served in the school that the pupil attends, or in any school building under the jurisdiction of the board of education.

- I. Notwithstanding the foregoing, the reassignment of a student from one regular education classroom program in the district to another regular education classroom program in the district shall not constitute a suspension or expulsion.

II. Scope of the Student Discipline Policy

A. *Conduct on School Grounds or at a School-Sponsored Activity:*

Students may be disciplined for conduct on school grounds or at any school-sponsored activity that endangers persons or property, is seriously disruptive of the educational process, or that violates a publicized policy of the Board.

B. *Conduct off School Grounds:*

1. Students may be disciplined for conduct off school grounds if such conduct is seriously disruptive of the educational process and violative of a publicized policy of the Board. In making a determination as to whether such conduct is seriously disruptive of the educational process, the

Administration and the Board of Education may consider, but such consideration shall not be limited to, the following factors: (1) whether the incident occurred within close proximity of a school; (2) whether other students from the school were involved or whether there was any gang involvement; (3) whether the conduct involved violence, threats of violence, or the unlawful use of a weapon, as defined in section Conn. Gen. Stat. § 29-38, and whether any injuries occurred; and (4) whether the conduct involved the use of alcohol.

In making a determination as to whether such conduct is seriously disruptive of the educational process, the Administration and/or the Board of Education may also consider whether such off-campus conduct involved the use of drugs.

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STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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2. When considering whether conduct off school grounds is seriously disruptive of the educational process, the term "weapon" means any pistol or revolver, any dirk knife or switch knife, any knife having an automatic spring release device by which a blade is released from the handle, having a blade of over one and one-half inches in length, and any other dangerous or deadly weapon or instrument, including any BB gun, sling shot, blackjack, sand bag, metal or brass knuckles, stiletto, knife, the edged portion of the blade of which is four inches and over in length, or any martial arts weapon as defined below at section VI.B.

III. Actions Leading to Disciplinary Action, including Removal from Class, Suspension and/or Expulsion

Conduct which may lead to disciplinary action (including, but not limited to, suspension and/or expulsion) includes conduct on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity, and conduct off school grounds, as set forth above. Such conduct includes, but is not limited to, the following:

1. Striking or assaulting a student, members of the school staff or other persons.
2. Theft.
3. The use of obscene or profane language or gestures.
4. Violation of smoking, dress, transportation regulations, or other regulations and/or policies governing student conduct.
5. Refusal to obey a member of the school staff, law enforcement authorities, or school volunteers, or disruptive classroom behavior.
6. Any act of harassment based on an individual's sex, sexual orientation, race, color, religion, disability, national origin or ancestry.
7. Refusal by a student to identify himself/herself to a staff member when asked, or misidentification of oneself to such person(s).
8. A walk-out from or sit-in within a classroom or school building or school grounds.

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STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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9. Blackmailing, threatening or intimidating school staff or students (or acting in a manner that could be construed to constitute blackmail, a threat, or intimidation, regardless of whether intended as a joke).
10. Possession of any weapon, weapon facsimile, deadly weapon, pistol, knife, blackjack, bludgeon, box cutter, metal knuckles, pellet gun, explosive device, firearm, whether loaded or unloaded, whether functional or not, or any other dangerous object.
11. Unauthorized entrance into any school facility or portion of a school facility or aiding or abetting an unauthorized entrance.
12. Possession or ignition of any fireworks or other explosive materials, or ignition of any material causing a fire.
13. Unauthorized possession, sale, distribution, use or consumption of tobacco, drugs, narcotics or alcoholic beverages (or any facsimile of tobacco, drugs, narcotics or alcoholic beverages, or any item represented to be tobacco, drugs or alcoholic beverages). For the purposes of this Paragraph 13, the term "drugs" shall include, but shall not be limited to, any medicinal preparation (prescription and non-prescription) and any controlled substance whose possession, sale, distribution, use or consumption is illegal under state and/or federal law.
14. Possession of paraphernalia used or designed to be used in the consumption, sale or distribution of drugs, alcohol or tobacco, as described in subparagraph (13) above.
15. The destruction of real, personal or school property, such as, cutting, defacing or otherwise damaging property in any way.
16. Accumulation of offenses such as school and class tardiness, class or study hall cutting, or failure to attend detention.
17. Trespassing on school grounds while on out-of-school suspension or expulsion.
18. Making false bomb threats or other threats to the safety of students, staff members, and/or other persons.
19. Defiance of school rules and the valid authority of teachers, supervisors, administrators, other staff members and/or law enforcement authorities.

Students

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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20. Throwing snowballs, rocks, sticks and/or similar objects, except as specifically authorized by school staff.
21. Unauthorized and/or reckless and/or improper operation of a motor vehicle on school grounds or at any school-sponsored activity.
22. Leaving school grounds, school transportation or a school-sponsored activity without authorization.
23. Use of or copying of the academic work of another individual and presenting it as the student's own work, without proper attribution.
24. Possession and/or use of a radio, walkman, beeper, paging device, cellular telephone, walkie talkie or similar electronic device on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity without the written permission of the principal or his/her designee.
25. Unauthorized use of any school computer, computer system, computer software, Internet connection or similar school property or system, or the use of such property or system for unauthorized purposes.
26. Possession and/or use of a laser pointer.
27. Hazing.
28. Bullying is defined under Sec. 10-222d. as amended by PA 08-160 as: any overt acts by a student or a group of students directed against another student with the intent to ridicule, humiliate, or intimidate the other student while on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity, which acts are committed more than once against any student during the school year.
29. Any other violation of school rules or regulations or a series of violations which makes the presence of the student in school seriously disruptive of the educational process and/or a danger to persons or property.
30. Any action prohibited by any Federal or State law which would indicate that the student presents a danger to any person in the school community or school property.

Students

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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IV. Procedures Governing Removal From Class

- A. A student may be removed from class by a teacher or administrator if he/she deliberately causes a serious disruption of the educational process. When a student is removed, the teacher must send him/her to a designated area and notify the principal or his/her designee at once.
- B. A student may not be removed from class more than six (6) times in one school year nor more than twice in one week unless the student is referred to the building principal or designee and granted an informal hearing at which the student should be informed of the reasons for the disciplinary action and given an opportunity to explain the situation.
- C. The parents or guardian of any minor student removed from class shall be given notice of such disciplinary action within twenty-four (24) hours of the time of the institution of such removal from class.

V. Procedures Governing Suspension

- A. The principal of a school, or designee on the administrative staff of the school, shall have the right to suspend any student for breach of conduct as noted in Section II and/or Section III of this policy for not more than ten (10) consecutive school days. In such cases, the following procedures shall be followed.
 - 1. Unless an emergency situation exists, no student shall be suspended prior to having an informal hearing before the principal or designee at which, the student is informed of the charges and given an opportunity to respond. In the event of an emergency, the informal hearing shall be held as soon after the suspension as possible.
 - 2. Evidence of past disciplinary problems which have led to removal from a classroom, suspension, or expulsion of a student who is the subject of an informal hearing may be received by the principal or designee, and considered in the determination of the length of suspensions and/or whether the suspension is an in-school or out-of-school suspension.
 - 3. By telephone, the principal or designee shall make reasonable attempts to immediately notify the parent or guardian of a minor student following the suspension and to state the cause(s) leading to the suspension.

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STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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4. Whether or not telephone contact is made with the parent or guardian of such minor student, the principal or designee shall forward a letter promptly to such parent or guardian to the last address reported on school records (or to a newer address if known by the principal or designee), offering the parent or guardian an opportunity for a conference to discuss same.
 5. In all cases, the parent or guardian of any minor student who has been suspended shall be given notice of such suspension within twenty-four (24) hours of the time of the institution of the suspension.
 6. Notice of the original suspension shall be transmitted by the principal or designee to the superintendent of schools or designee by the close of the school day following the commencement of the suspension.
 7. The student shall be allowed to complete any class work, including examinations, without penalty, which he or she missed while under suspension.
 8. Notice of the suspension shall be recorded in the student's cumulative educational record. Such notice shall be expunged from the cumulative educational record if the student graduates from high school.
 9. The decision of the principal or designee with regard to disciplinary actions up to and including suspensions shall be final.
 10. During the period of suspension, the student shall not be permitted to be on school property (except in the case of an in-school suspension), and shall not be permitted to attend or participate in any school-sponsored activities, unless the principal specifically authorizes the student to participate in a particular school-sponsored activity.
- B. In cases where the student has previously been suspended, or where such suspension will result in the student's being suspended more than ten (10) times or for fifty (50) days in a school year, whichever results in fewer days of exclusion, the student shall, prior to suspension, be granted a formal hearing. The principal or designee shall report the student to the Superintendent or designee and request a formal hearing.

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STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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VI. Procedures Governing Expulsion Recommendation

- A. A principal may consider recommendation of expulsion of a student in a case where he/she has reason to believe the student has engaged in conduct described at sections II and/or III, above.
- B. A principal must recommend expulsion proceedings in all cases against any student whom the administration has reason to believe:
 - 1. was in possession on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity of a deadly weapon, dangerous instrument, martial arts weapon, or firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921 as amended from time to time; or
 - 2. off school grounds, possessed a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921, in violation of Conn. Gen. Stat. § 29-35, or possessed and used a firearm as defined in 18 U.S.C. § 921, a deadly weapon, a dangerous instrument or a martial arts weapon in the commission of a crime under chapter 952 of the Connecticut General Statutes; or
 - 3. was engaged on or off school grounds in offering for sale or distribution a controlled substance (as defined in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 21a-240(9)), whose manufacturing, distribution, sale, prescription, dispensing, transporting, or possessing with intent to sell or dispense, offering or administering is subject to criminal penalties under Conn. Gen. Stat. §§21a-277 and 21a-278.
 - 4. The following definitions shall be used in this section:
 - a. A "firearm" as defined in 18 U.S.C § 921 means (a) any weapon that will, is designed to, or may be readily converted to expel a projectile by the action of an explosive, (b) the frame or receiver of any such weapon, (c) a firearm muffler or silencer, or (d) any destructive device. As used in this definition, a "destructive device" includes any explosive, incendiary, or poisonous gas device, including a bomb, a grenade, a rocket having a propellant charge of more than four ounces, a missile having an explosive or incendiary charge of more than one-quarter ounce, a mine, or a similar device; or any weapon (other than a shotgun or shotgun shell particularly suited for sporting purposes) that will or may be converted to expel a projectile by explosive or other propellant having a barrel with a bore of more than ½" in

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STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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diameter. The term "destructive device" also includes any combination of parts either designed or intended for use in converting any device into any destructive device or any device from which a destructive device may be readily assembled. A "destructive device" does not include: an antique firearm; a rifle intended to be used by the owner solely for sporting, recreational, or cultural purposes; or any device which is neither designed nor redesigned for use as a weapon.

- b. "Deadly weapon" means any weapon, whether loaded or unloaded, from which a shot may be discharged, or a switchblade knife, gravity knife, billy, blackjack, bludgeon or metal knuckles.
- c. "Dangerous instrument" means any instrument, article or substance which, under the circumstances in which it is used or attempted or threatened to be used, is capable of causing death or serious physical injury, and includes a "vehicle".
- d. "Martial arts weapon" means a nunchaku, kama, kasari-fundo, octagon sai, tonfa or chinese star.
- e. When considering whether conduct off school grounds is seriously disruptive of the educational process, the term "weapon" means any pistol or revolver, any dirk knife or switch knife, any knife having an automatic spring release device by which a blade is released from the handle and having a blade of over one and one-half inches in length, and any other dangerous or deadly weapon or instrument, including any BB gun, sling shot, blackjack, sand bag, metal or brass knuckles, stiletto, knife, the edged portion of the blade of which is four inches and over in length, or any martial arts weapon as defined above.

Students

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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- C. Upon receipt of an expulsion recommendation, the Superintendent may conduct an inquiry concerning the expulsion recommendation.

If the Superintendent or his/her designee determines that a student should or must be expelled, he or she shall forward his/her recommendation to an impartial hearing officer to hear and decide the expulsion matter.

VII. Procedures Governing Expulsion Hearing

- A. Emergency Exception:

Except in an emergency situation, the Board of Education shall, prior to expelling any student, conduct a hearing to be governed by the procedures outlined herein. Whenever an emergency exists, the hearing provided for herein shall be held as soon as possible after the expulsion.

- B. Hearing Panel:

The Superintendent is hereby authorized to retain a hearing officer to conduct the hearing.

- C. Hearing Notice:

1. Written notice of the expulsion hearing must be given to the student, and, if the student is a minor, to his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) within a reasonable time prior to the time of the hearing.
2. A copy of this Board policy on student discipline shall also be given to the student, and if the student is a minor, to his/her parent(s) or guardian(s), at the time the notice is sent that an expulsion hearing will be convened.
3. The written notice of the expulsion hearing shall inform the student of the following:

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STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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- a. The date, time, and location of the hearing.
 - b. A short, plain description of the conduct alleged by the administration.
 - c. The student may present as evidence, testimony and documents concerning the conduct alleged and the appropriate length and conditions of expulsion, as well as notice that the expulsion hearing will be the student's sole opportunity to present such evidence.
 - d. The student may cross-examine witnesses called by the administration.
 - e. The student may be represented by any third party of his/her choice, including an attorney, at his/her expense or at the expense of his/her parents.
 - f. A student is entitled to the services of a translator or interpreter, to be provided by the Board of Education, whenever the student or his/her parent(s) or guardian(s) do(es) not speak the English language or is handicapped.
 - g. The conditions under which the Board is not legally required to give the student an alternative educational opportunity (if applicable).
- D. Hearing Procedures:
- 1. The hearing will be conducted by a hearing officer, who will call the meeting to order, introduce the parties, and counsel, briefly explain the hearing procedures, and swear in any witnesses called by the administration or the student.
 - 2. The hearing will be conducted in executive session. A verbatim record of the hearing will be made, either by tape recording or by a stenographer.

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STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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3. Formal rules of evidence will not be followed. The hearing officer has the right to accept hearsay and other evidence if it deems that evidence relevant or material to its determination. The hearing officer will rule on testimony or evidence as to it being immaterial or irrelevant.
4. The hearing will be conducted in two parts. In the first part of the hearing, the hearing officer will receive and consider evidence regarding the conduct alleged by the administration.
5. In the first part of the hearing, the charges will be introduced into the record by the Superintendent or his/her designee.
6. Each witness for the administration will be called and sworn. After a witness has finished testifying, he/she will be subject to cross-examination by the opposite party or his/her legal counsel and by the hearing officer.
7. After the administration has presented its case, the student will be asked if he/she has any witnesses or evidence to present. If so, the witnesses will be sworn, will testify, and will be subject to cross examination and to questioning by the hearing officer. The student may also choose to make a statement at this time. If the student chooses to make a statement, he or she will be sworn and subject to cross examination and questioning by the hearing officer. Concluding statements will be made by the administration and then by the student and/or his or her representative.
8. In cases where the student has denied the allegation, the hearing officer must determine whether the student committed the offense(s) as alleged by the Superintendent.
9. If the hearing officer determines that the student has committed the conduct as alleged, then the hearing officer shall proceed with the second portion of the hearing, during which the hearing officer will receive and consider evidence regarding the length and conditions of expulsion.
10. When considering the length and conditions of expulsion, the hearing officer may review the student's attendance, academic and past disciplinary records. The hearing officer may ask the Superintendent for a recommendation as to the discipline to be imposed.

Students

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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11. Evidence of past disciplinary problems which have led to removal from a classroom, suspension or expulsion of a student being considered for expulsion may be considered only during the second portion of the hearing, during which the hearing officer is considering length and conditions of expulsion and nature of alternative educational opportunity to be offered.
12. Where administrative staff presented evidence in support of the allegations against the student, such administrative staff shall not be present during the deliberations of the hearing officer either on questions of evidence or on the final length and conditions of expulsion to be imposed. The Superintendent may, after reviewing the incident with administrators, and reviewing the student's records, make a recommendation to the hearing officer as to the appropriate length and conditions of expulsion to be imposed.
13. The hearing officer shall make findings as to the truth of the allegations, if the student has denied them, and, in all cases, the length and conditions of expulsion, if any, to be imposed. The hearing officer shall report its final decision in writing to the student, or if such student is a minor, also to the parent(s) or guardian(s), stating the reasons on which the decision is based, and the length and conditions of expulsion to be imposed. Said decision shall be based solely on evidence presented at the hearing.

E. Expulsion Notice:

The parents or guardian or any minor student who has been expelled shall be given notice of such length and conditions of expulsion within twenty-four (24) hours of the time of the institution of the period of the expulsion.

F. Presence on School Grounds and Participation in School-sponsored Activities During Expulsion.

During the period of expulsion, the student shall not be permitted to be on school property and shall not be permitted to attend or participate in any school-sponsored activities, except for the student's participation in any alternative educational program provided by the district in accordance with this policy, unless the Superintendent specifically authorizes the student to participate in a particular school-sponsored activity.

Students

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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VIII. Board Policy Regarding Mandatory Expulsions

In keeping with Conn. Gen. Stat. § 10-233d and the Gun-Free Schools Act, it shall be the policy of the Board to expel a student for one full calendar year for: the conduct described in Section VI(B)(1), (2) and (3) of this policy. The hearing officer may modify the term of expulsion on a case-by-case basis.

IX. Alternative Educational Programs for Expelled Students

A. *Students under sixteen (16) years of age:*

Whenever a student under sixteen years of age is expelled, any such student shall be offered an alternative educational program.

B. *Students sixteen (16) to eighteen (18) years of age:*

The Board of Education will provide an alternative education to a sixteen to eighteen year old student expelled for the first time if he/she requests it and if he/she agrees to the conditions set by the Board of Education, acting through the Superintendent, except as follows: The Board of Education is not required to offer an alternative program to any student between the ages of sixteen and eighteen who is expelled for the second time, or if it is determined at the hearing that (1) the student possessed a dangerous instrument, deadly weapon, firearm or martial arts weapon on school property or at a school-sponsored activity, or (2) the student offered a controlled substance for sale or distribution on school property or at a school-sponsored activity.

C. *Students eighteen (18) years of age or older:*

The Board of Education is not required to offer an alternative educational program to expelled students eighteen years of age or older.

D. *Students identified as eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA"):*

Students

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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Notwithstanding Sections IX.A. through C. above, if an expelled student has been identified as eligible for services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA"), the expelled student shall be offered an alternative educational program in accordance with the requirements of IDEA, as it may be amended from time to time.

X. Notice of Student Expulsion on Cumulative Record

Notice of expulsion and the conduct for which the student was expelled shall be included on the student's cumulative educational record. Such notice, except for notice of an expulsion based upon possession of a firearm or deadly weapon, shall be expunged from the cumulative educational record by the Board if the student graduates from high school.

XI. Change of Residence During Expulsion Proceedings

A. *Student moving into the school district:*

1. If a student enrolls in the district while an expulsion hearing is pending in another district, such student shall not be excluded from school pending completion of the out of district expulsion hearing unless an emergency exists, as defined above. The hearing officer shall have the authority to suspend the student or to conduct its own expulsion hearing.
2. Where a student enrolls in the district during the period of expulsion from another public school district, the hearing officer may adopt the decision of the student expulsion hearing conducted by such other school district. The hearing officer shall make its determination based upon a hearing held by the hearing officer, which shall be limited to a determination of whether the conduct which was the basis of the previous public school district's expulsion would also warrant expulsion by the Board.

B. *Student moving out of the school district:*

Where a student withdraws from school after having been notified that an expulsion hearing is pending, but before a decision has been rendered by the hearing officer, the notice of the pending expulsion hearing shall be included on the student's cumulative record and the hearing officer shall complete the expulsion hearing and render a decision. If the hearing officer subsequently renders a decision to expel the student, a notice of the expulsion shall be included on the student's cumulative record.

Students

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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XII. Procedures Governing Suspension and Expulsion of Students Identified as Eligible for Services under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act ("IDEA")

A. *Suspension of students who are eligible for services under IDEA:*

Notwithstanding the foregoing, if the administration suspends a student identified as eligible for services under the IDEA (a "student with at disability") who has violated any rule or code of conduct of the school district that applies to all students, the following procedures shall apply:

1. The administration shall make reasonable attempts to immediately notify the parents of the student of the decision to suspend on the date on which the decision to suspend was made, and a copy of the special education procedural safeguards must either be hand-delivered or sent by mail to the parents on the date that the decision to suspend was made.
2. During the period of suspension, the school district is not required to provide any educational services to the student with a disability beyond that which is provided to all students suspended by the school district.

B. *Expulsion and Suspensions that Constitute Changes in Placement for students with disabilities:*

Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, if the administration recommends for expulsion a student with a disability who has violated any rule or code of conduct of the school district that applies to all students, the procedures described in this section shall apply. The procedures described in this section shall also apply for students whom the administration has suspended in a manner that is considered under the IDEA, as it may be amended from time to time, to be a change in placement:

1. The parents of the student must be notified of the decision to suspend on the date on which the decision to suspend was made, and a copy of the special education procedural safeguards must either be hand-delivered or sent by mail to the parents on the date that the decision to suspend was made.

Students

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

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2. The school district shall immediately convene the IEP team, but in no case later than ten (10) school days after the recommendation for expulsion or the suspension that constitutes a change in placement was made. The student's IEP team shall consider whether the student's disability caused or had a direct and substantial relationship to the behavior that led to the recommendation for expulsion or the suspension which constitutes a change in placement, and whether the behavior was a direct result of the failure to implement the student's IEP in order to determine whether the student's behavior was a manifestation of his/her disability.
3. If the IEP team finds that the behavior was a manifestation of the student's disability, the administration shall not proceed with the recommendation for expulsion. The IEP team shall consider the student's misconduct and revise the IEP to prevent a recurrence of the misconduct and to provide for the safety of other students and staff.
4. If the IEP team finds that the behavior was not a manifestation of the student's disability, the administration may proceed with the recommended expulsion or suspension that constitutes a change in placement.
5. During any period of expulsion, or suspension of greater than ten (10) days per school year, the administration shall provide the student with an alternative education program in accordance with the provisions of the IDEA.
6. The special education records and disciplinary records of the student must be transmitted to the individual(s) who will make the final determination regarding a recommendation for expulsion or a suspension that results in a change in placement.

Students

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

5119

C. *Transfer of students with disabilities for Certain Offenses:*

School personnel may transfer an IDEA student to an appropriate interim alternative educational setting for not more than forty-five (45) school days if the student:

1. Was in possession of a dangerous weapon, as defined in 18 U.S.C. 930(g)(2), as amended from time to time, on school grounds or at a school-sponsored activity, or
2. Knowingly possessed or used illegal drugs or sold or solicited the sale of a controlled substance while at school or at a school-sponsored activity.
3. Has inflicted serious bodily injury on another person at school, on school grounds or at a school sponsored activity.

As used in this subsection XIII.C., the term “dangerous weapon” means a weapon, device, instrument, material, or substance, animate or inanimate, that is used for, or is readily capable of, causing death or serious bodily injury, except that such term does not include a pocket knife with a blade of less than 2.5 inches in length. The term “serious bodily injury” means bodily injury which involves substantial risk of death; extreme physical pain; protracted and obvious disfigurement; or protracted loss or impairment of the function of a bodily member, organ or mental faculty.

XIII. Procedures Governing Expulsions for Students Identified as Eligible for Educational Accommodations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973

Notwithstanding any provision to the contrary, if the administration recommends for expulsion a student identified as eligible for educational accommodations under Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (a “Student with disabilities under 504”) who has violated any rule or code of conduct of the school district that applies to all students, the following procedures shall apply:

1. The parents of the student must be notified of the decision to recommend the student for expulsion.

Students

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

5119

2. The district shall immediately convene the student's Section 504 team ("504 team") for the purpose of reviewing the relationship between the student's disability and the behavior that led to the recommendation for expulsion. The 504 team will determine whether the student's behavior was a manifestation of his/her disability.
3. If the 504 team finds that the behavior was a manifestation of the student's disability, the administration shall not proceed with the recommended expulsion. The 504 team shall consider the student's misconduct and revise the 504 plan to prevent a recurrence of the misconduct and to provide for the safety of other students and staff.
4. If the 504 team finds that the behavior was not a manifestation of the student's disability, the administration may proceed with the recommended expulsion.

XIV. Early Readmission to School

An expelled student may apply for early readmission to school. The Board delegates the authority to make decisions on readmission requests to the Superintendent. Students desiring readmission to school shall direct such readmission requests to the Superintendent. The Superintendent has the discretion to approve or deny such readmission requests, and may condition readmission on specified criteria.

XV. Dissemination of Policy

The Board of Education shall, at the beginning of each school year and at such other times as it may deem appropriate, provide for an effective means of informing all students, parent(s) and/or guardian(s) of this policy.

XVI. Compliance with Reporting Requirements

- A. The Board of Education shall report all suspensions and expulsions to the State Department of Education.
- B. If a student is expelled for sale or distribution of a controlled substance, the Board shall refer such student to an appropriate state or local agency for rehabilitation, intervention or job training and inform the agency of its action.

Students

STUDENT DISCIPLINE - SUSPENSION/EXPULSION (continued)

5119

- C. If a student is expelled for possession of a deadly weapon or firearm, as defined in Conn. Gen. Stat. § 53a-3, the violation shall be reported to the local police.
- D. ~~At least once every year,~~ No later than ~~May 1st~~, **August 31st**, the Superintendent shall, in Executive Session, provide the Board with a summary of any recommendation of expulsion and any expulsion hearings **from the prior fiscal year ending June 30th**. The summary shall include conduct alleged by the administration, the findings of the hearing officer and the length and conditions of expulsion imposed, if any.

Legal References:

Connecticut General Statutes:

§§ 4-177 through 4-180 Contested cases. Notice. Record.

§§ 10-233a through 10-233e Suspension and expulsion of students.

§ 10-233f as amended by PA 07-66 and PA 08-160

In-school suspension of students.

Packer v. Board of Educ. of the Town of Thomaston, 246 Conn. 89 (1998).

Federal law:

Honig v. Doe, 484 U.S. 305 (1988)

Individuals with Disabilities Act, 20 U.S.C. 1400 et seq., as amended by the

Individuals with Disabilities Education Act Amendments of 1997, Pub. L. 105-17.

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. § 794(a).

18 U.S.C. § 921 (definition of “firearm”)

18 U.S.C. § 930(g)(2) (definition of “dangerous weapon”)

Gun-Free Schools Act, Pub. L. 107-110, Sec. 401, 115 Stat. 1762 (codified at 20 U.S.C. § 7151)

Policy Approved: 11/9/2010

Revised and Approved: 5/15/2012

SEP 09 2014

Board of Education
Policy Guide**Students****WELFARE****5500****HEALTH ASSESSMENTS****5510**

- I. In accordance with Connecticut General statutes, each student enrolled in the Fairfield schools shall be required to have a health assessment by a legally qualified practitioner of medicine (physician or osteopath licensed to practice in the United States), or by an advanced practice registered nurse, registered nurse, or Physician Assistant licensed to practice in Connecticut.

- prior to initial entrance into preschool programs,
- prior to initial entrance into kindergarten,
- for transfer students, prior to initial entrance into the Fairfield schools
- in grades 6 and ~~10~~ 9,
- for ungraded students, prior to initial entrance and whenever a health assessment is required for students of the same age cohort as the ungraded student.

~~Health assessments shall be required for entrance into grade nine in non-public high schools in lieu of health assessments required in grade 10.~~

All health assessments required above and done on or after August 15, 2005 shall include documentation of an assessment of the student's risk of exposure to tuberculosis. Any student determined to be at high risk shall receive a Mantoux tuberculin skin test performed in the United States as part of the required health assessment.

Health assessments required prior to initial entrance into a Fairfield school shall include evidence of a Mantoux tuberculin skin test performed after most recent entry into the United States for students entering school in Fairfield from a country with a high prevalence of tuberculosis.

Countries with a high prevalence of tuberculosis include those identified as such by the Connecticut Department of Public Health. Refer to corresponding Administrative Regulations.

Any student found to have a positive Mantoux tuberculin skin test or tuberculosis disease shall be permitted to attend school only in accordance with the tuberculosis control protocols established by the Fairfield Director of Health and School Medical Advisor.

Student

WELFARE

HEALTH ASSESSMENTS (continued)

5510

Any student not in accordance with this policy shall not be permitted to register for or continue attendance in school.

All students are encouraged to have their health assessments done by their private health care provider to promote continuity of care. However, if this is not done, health assessments will be available in the schools or in the Fairfield Well Child Clinic for eligible students with parent authorization.

Students who are experiencing health problems or are suspected of having a health problem may be referred to their private health care provider for a health assessment at other than required times.

- II. Students in high schools participating in interscholastic sports (tryouts, practice and play) will be required to have a health assessment by their private health care provider within one calendar year prior to start of participation in the sport for the current school year. Students who do not have evidence of the health assessment within the calendar year cannot participate in the sport. Students participating in high school interscholastic sports (tryouts, practice, or play) shall be required to have a health assessment no more than thirteen months prior to participation in the sport for the current school year. The health assessment is valid for a period of thirteen months from the date it was done. Once the health assessment becomes more than thirteen-months old, the student cannot continue to participate in the sport until a new health assessment is done and submitted to the school. The health assessment must be done by a legally qualified practitioner of medicine (physician or osteopath licensed to practice in the United States), or by an advanced practice registered nurse, registered nurse, or Physician Assistant licensed to practice in Connecticut.
- III. Timing of health assessments shall be in accordance with the corresponding Administrative Regulations.
- IV. Connecticut state statutes permit exemption from physical or medical examination required for entry into school or entry into grades 6 or 10 ~~9~~ if the parent/legal guardian of a student provides a written statement that the parent/legal guardian of the student, or the student, objects on religious grounds, to physical or medical examination. These exemptions do not apply to health assessments required for participation in sports.

Legal Reference: Connecticut General Statutes 10-206

Approved 8/27/2004

Revised and Approved 6/27/2006

Revised and Approved 6/26/2007

SEP 09 2014

**Special Meeting Notes
Fairfield BoE; August 26, 2014**

Call to order and Roll Call

Chairman Philip Dwyer called the Regular meeting to order at 6:33PM. Present were members Eileen Liu-McCormack, John Llewellyn, John Convertito, Jessica Gerber, Jennifer Maxon-Kennelly, Marc Patten (arrived 6:43PM), Philip Dwyer, Paul Fattibene and Donna Karnal (arrived 6:37). Also present was Mrs. Ann Leffert, Mr. Steve Sedor, Mr. Steve May and Mr. Erik Fiedler.

Board Discussion Regarding Student Expulsions and Collective Bargaining Negotiations

Mrs. Gerber moved/Mr. Convertito seconded the recommended motion: "that the Board of Education hereby moves to enter into Executive Session under 1-200(6)(E) to discuss confidential student expulsion records under 1-210(b)(17) and invite Mrs. Karen Parks; and to discuss records, reports and statements of strategy or negotiations with respect to collective bargaining in accordance with Connecticut General Statute CGS 1-210(b)(9); and invite Mr. Steve Sedor, Mrs. Ann Leffert, Mr. Steve May, and Mr. Erik Fiedler as appropriate."

Motion passed 7-0 (Ms. Karnal and Mr. Patten were not present for this vote).

The Board came out of Executive session at 7:32PM

Adjournment

Mr. Convertito moved/Mr. Fattibene seconded "that this Special Meeting of the Board of Education adjourn" Motion passed 9-0. Meeting adjourned at 7:32PM.

Regular Meeting Minutes
Fairfield BoE; August 26, 2014

SEP 09 2014

NOTICE: A full meeting recording can be obtained from Fairfield Public Schools. Please call 203-255-8371 for more information and/or see the FPS website (under Board Meeting Minutes) for a link to FAIRTV.

Call to Order of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education and Roll Call

Chairman Philip Dwyer called the Regular meeting to order at 7:40PM. Present were members Eileen Liu-McCormack, John Convertito, Donna Karnal, Jessica Gerber, Philip Dwyer, Paul Fattibene, Jennifer Maxon-Kennelly, John Llewellyn and Marc Patten. Others present were Superintendent David Title, members of the Central Office Leadership Team, and approximately 15 members of the public.

Public Comment

Brian Haberly, Duck Farm Road: Riverfield teacher letter
Nancy Haberly, Duck Farm Road: Personnel matter

Presentations

District Improvement Initiatives for 2014-2015

Dr. Title discussed District Improvement Initiatives in Attachment 1a and noted that each initiative has at least one Central Office administrator assigned to it.

Mr. Convertito is looking forward to future reports on #6 and #12, and also expressed safety concerns over the remaining portables with regards to #21 and #29. Dr. Title offered that items #21 and #29 address the need to rid the district of portables, interim measures are being looked at due to the slow project approval rate.

Mr. Llewellyn requested that core subject curricula review be added to the agenda schedule in addition to the review of the Art curriculum; Mr. Dwyer stated that a curricula review plan will be developed in November. Mr. Llewellyn asked if flexible grouping will be rolled out district-wide on the elementary level; Dr. Cutaia-Leonard responded that some schools have adopted a departmentalized approach in 5th grade with each group divided differently. Mr. Llewellyn requested School Improvement Plans be easily accessible on the web and asked if the BOE will approve these; Dr. Title said they are currently posted; he will ensure the path is easily found; the BOE will review the District Improvement Plan; the School Improvement Plans will align to it.

Ms. Karnal asked about items #5 and #7. Dr. Title responded that Dr. Cutaia-Leonard had already addressed #7 and the high school schedule is currently undergoing revision to increase instructional time.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack asked how School Improvement Plans tie in to Board Goals; Mr. Dwyer responded that Board Goals address Board actions separate from staff. Mrs. Liu-McCormack would like to see item #12 address high performing students and felt this item is biased towards struggling learners. Dr. Title offered that item #12 was flagged due to the Mission Statement and stated that many other district initiatives addressed high performing students. Mrs. Liu-McCormack requested a curricula review schedule.

Mr. Patten referred to item #4. Dr. Title mentioned that the Board will be presented with options in November; while not a voting item, the Board can provide budgetary guidance.

Mr. Dwyer requested and received Board approval to proceed with questions only on Attachments 1b and 1c, rather than a full presentation.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack asked how the strategy of success will be communicated; Dr. Title mentioned the question is how to measure progress towards the BOE Mission and Goals; ideas on measures will be given in November. Mr. Dwyer stated that this will continue to be on future agendas under the Superintendent's Report.

Mr. Llewellyn asked for a sample of Data Team data, results and actions to be provided prior to budget season; Dr. Title and Mr. Dwyer said this could possibly be on the December agenda.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly offered that Data Teams, by virtue of the work that is getting done, are a messy process that is hard to understand unless one is involved.

Mr. Patten asked if the Rounds Process is new and requested a presentation on it; Dr. Title replied that it has been done for several years and is tied to School Improvement Plans.

Impact of State of Connecticut Legislative Actions

Dr. Title highlighted the impact of several legislative actions from 2013-2014 which included the regional calendar implementation delay, the possibility of a Kindergarten start date change/phase-in, and school climate plan.

Mr. Patten asked if there were additional unfunded mandates; Dr. Title stated that all are unfunded.

Mr. Llewellyn requested the status of the concussion and food allergy policies; Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly stated the food allergy policy may be ready for the full Board at the next meeting. Ms. Karnal added that much progress was made on the food allergy policy and discussion remained on implementation.

<i>Old Business</i>

Adoption of Board Goals

Mr. Dwyer presented the Board Goals and explained that the number next to each goal represented the ranking by the Board; any goal can be voted on regardless of the ranking.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly commented on the differences between Board and District goals.

Mr. Patten moved, Mrs. Gerber seconded that the Board of Education adopt Board Goal(s) # 1, 2, 3, entitled –

- 1) High School Schedule: Provide budget support and resources necessary to implement the administration's new high school schedule by fall, 2015;
- 2) Long Range District Improvement Plan: Approve, by June 2015, a Long Range District Improvement Plan to achieve the Board's Mission and Educational Goals with measures of success, action plans and all budgetary impacts; and
- 3) Manage the schools in an efficient and cost effective manner, while maintaining and improving the quality of educational programs -- per Enclosure No. 3

Mr. Patten offered that these goals have been top goals for the last few years.

Mrs. Gerber mentioned that the high school schedule in particular has been a top goal.

Mr. Convertito wouldn't support Goal 3 as the Board only oversees and does not manage.

Mr. Fattibene only supports Goal 2 as he hasn't yet seen the new high school schedule; there may be funding issues; Goal 3 is a perpetual goal, the Board does manage schools but doesn't administer the management; Goals should be specific.

Mr. Llewellyn asked the difference in the implementation of a high school vs. elementary schedule.

Mr. Dwyer responded that he put the high school schedule first in his vote to provide more instructional time.

Dr. Title added that the only change in the elementary schedule is the lettering to equalize the specials, there is no change in instructional time.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly asked if Board support is helpful in regards to the high school schedule. Dr. Title said the Board does not vote on the high school schedule, but Board support is always welcome; the Board can address budget implications, if there are any, during the budget process. Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly reminded the Board that it voted on moving ahead with Mission and Goals and Communication committees when the outcome was unknown.

Mr. Convertito asked if the long-range District Improvement Plan would include a revised high school schedule. Dr. Title responded that it would include the consequences of the high school schedule such as instructional time and professional development.

Mr. Convertito asked if the mover and seconder would change the motion to remove item #3, Mr. Dwyer asked if the Board would approve this by unanimous consent; Mr. Fattibene objected.

Mr. Convertito moved, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly seconded to amend the main motion to remove item number 3 – "Manage the schools in an efficient and cost effective manner, while maintaining and improving the quality of educational programs" from the main motion and keep item numbers 1 and 2 only.

Mr. Dwyer made a ruling based on past Board practice to not allow public comment on Board Goals since they are an administrative matter. Mr. Llewellyn challenged this ruling.

Challenge Failed 4-4-1

Favor: Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mr. Fattibene, Mr. Llewellyn

Oppose: Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten

Abstain: Mr. Convertito

Motion “to amend the main motion and remove item #3” Passed 6-2-1

Favor: Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten

Oppose: Ms. Karnal, Mr. Llewellyn

Abstain: Mrs. Liu-McCormack

Mr. Fattibene moved, Mr. Llewellyn seconded to amend the revised main motion -- “that the Board of Education adopt Board Goal(s) # 1 and 2, entitled –

- 1) High School Schedule: Provide budget support and resources necessary to implement the administration’s new high school schedule by fall, 2015;
- 2) Long Range District Improvement Plan: Approve, by June 2015, a Long Range District Improvement Plan to achieve the Board’s Mission and Educational Goals with measures of success, action plans and all budgetary impacts;

and remove Item #1 from the main motion.

Mr. Fattibene said it was difficult to commit to an unknown, and felt more comfortable with alternate wording in #1 regarding the budget.

Mr. Llewellyn didn’t want to commit to an unknown budget cost; and would agree to a revised amendment without the ‘budget support’ term.

Mr. Dwyer trusted that costs would be contained.

Mr. Convertito was agreeable to Mr. Fattibene’s suggestion to change the language.

Mr. Patten said the word ‘develop’ was a problem.

Mr. Dwyer confirmed that this expresses the intent of the Board to revise the schedule.

Mr. Fattibene moved, Mr. Llewellyn seconded to amend the amendment regarding removing item #1 from the main motion, and instead of removing item #1, change the language of the goal to read, *“to develop and implement a new High School schedule by Fall 2015”*

Motion Passed 5-1-3

Favor: Mr. Convertito, Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer Mr. Fattibene

Oppose: Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly

Abstain: Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Llewellyn, Mr. Patten

The amended motion: “that the Board of Education adopt Board Goal(s) # 1 and 2, entitled –

- 1) High School Schedule: to develop and implement a new High School schedule by Fall, 2015;
- 2) Long Range District Improvement Plan: Approve, by June 2015, a Long Range District Improvement Plan to achieve the Board’s Mission and Educational Goals with measures of success, action plans and all budgetary impacts

Motion Passed 9-0

Mr. Convertito moved, Mrs. Gerber seconded to call the question.

Motion Passed 6-3

Favor: Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mr. Patten

Oppose: Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn

The original motion, moved by Mr. Patten and seconded by Mrs. Gerber, as amended to read “that the Board of Education adopt Board Goal(s) # 1 and 2, entitled -- 1) High School Schedule: to develop and implement a new High School schedule by fall, 2015; 2) Long Range District Improvement Plan: Approve, by June 2015, a Long Range District Improvement Plan to achieve the Board’s Mission and Educational Goals with measures of success, action plans and all budgetary impacts -- per Enclosure No. 3”

Motion Passed 9-0

Mr. Dwyer confirmed with several members of the Board that more discussion on Board Goals was requested due to confusion over the intent of the motion to call the question.

Mr. Llewellyn moved, Ms. Karnal seconded to reopen the discussion on Board goals.

Motion Passed 5-3-1

Favor: Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn

Oppose: Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Patten

Abstain: Mr. Convertito

Mrs. Liu-McCormack moved/Mr. Llewellyn seconded to approve items 4 and 6 –

- 4) Raise Student Achievement #1 – to ensure the continuous improvement of Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment,
 - 8.1: To ensure the implementation of a measurable plan of action that ensures that all students of all levels are appropriately challenged and equipped with globally competitive learning skills to reach their full potential
 - 8.2: To ensure the implementation of an action plan to evaluate and enhance the effectiveness of the elementary and middle school programs for children with special needs, as well as gifted, to increase student achievement
 - 8.3: To ensure the review, evaluation and enhancement for the effectiveness of the various instructional methods and district assessments implemented in-district, including both building and district initiatives, in order to identify and implement best practices.
- 6) Annual Goal Setting Process: Every year the Board shall put together a comprehensive list of Board Goals and Objectives that address each of the below topics, respectively:
 - a) Raise Student Achievement for All Students
 - b) Improve the Fiscal Management of the BoE budget
 - c) Ensure an Effective Board of Education
 - d) Ensure we have the highest quality Human Resources

Mrs. Liu-McCormack felt that student achievement should be the highest goal every year, and these goals are being done in other districts.

Mr. Llewellyn stated that the Board has lost focus on student achievement; there is a need to measure what the Board has done in the past and whether it has been effective.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly stated her opposition to both goals; that these goals are redundant and overstep the bounds of what the Board should be doing; that language in 8.2 regarding specials needs and gifted students is not mutually exclusive.

Mrs. Liu-McCormack disagreed with Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly and stated that the Board should not neglect its duties in student achievement and is agreeable to change the wording in 8.2.

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly disagreed with Mrs. Liu-McCormack and felt this was already covered in the Mission and Goals; student achievement is on the agenda 4 times this year; this goal will affect staff time.

Mr. Fattibene said every Board member believes in raising student achievement; these important concepts can be included in the long-range District Improvement Plan, instead of being adopted as goals.

Mr. Convertito did not appreciate the insinuation that Board members don't care about student achievement; when goals are pulled from other districts' websites, it doesn't necessarily mean they are getting done, and he does not support the motion.

Mr. Convertito moved, Mr. Patten seconded to call the question to close debate on items 4 and 6.

Motion Passed 6-3

Favor: Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten

Oppose: Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mr. Llewellyn

The original motion on items 4 and 6, as moved by Mrs. Liu-McCormack and seconded by Mr. Llewellyn Failed 3-6

Favor: Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Ms. Karnal, Mr. Llewellyn

Oppose: Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved, Mr. Convertito seconded to approve Goal #8 – "Fairfield Public Schools Advocacy: The BoE will provide timely and relevant communication to the community about the school district's successes, its plans for improvement of student achievement and operations. In time for the 2015-16 budget review process, we will ensure community decision-makers are provided accurate information in response to questions or misleading information promulgated throughout the community".

Motion Passed 7-2

Favor: Mr. Convertito, Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Patten

Oppose: Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Llewellyn

Mr. Patten stated that previous work on this through the Communications Committee was exemplary and it can be achieved.

Mr. Llewellyn felt this should be standard operating procedure and disagrees with the statement 'accurate information' in regards to controlling of information.

Mr. Fattibene expressed concern that this is already done; approving this as a goal implies that it is not being done.

Mr. Dwyer stated that there is always room for improvement and he will support it.

<i>Approval of Minutes</i>

Approval of Minutes of July 15, 2014 Special Meeting

Mrs. Gerber moved/Mr. Convertito seconded the recommended motion "that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the 6:00pm Special Meeting of July 15, 2014"

Motion Passed 7-0-2

Favor: Ms. Karnal, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn, Mr. Patten

Oppose: 0

Abstain: Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Convertito

Approval of Minutes of July 15, 2014 Special Meeting

Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly moved/Mrs. Gerber seconded the recommended motion “that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the 6:30pm Special Meeting/Executive Session of July 15, 2014”

Motion Passed 6-0-2

Favor: Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn, Mr. Patten

Oppose: 0

Abstain: Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Convertito

(Ms. Karnal was out of the room.)

Approval of Minutes of June 24, 2014 Regular Meeting

Mrs. Gerber moved/Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly seconded the recommended motion “that the Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 24, 2014.”

Motion Passed 8-0

Favor: Mrs. Liu-McCormack, Mr. Convertito, Mrs. Gerber, Mr. Dwyer, Mr. Fattibene, Mrs. Maxon-Kennelly, Mr. Llewellyn, Mr. Patten

(Ms. Karnal was out of the room.)

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Title reported that his blog is now retired in favor of his twitter account @FairfieldSuper; this will not be a delegated account and will contain his comments.

Mr. Fattibene asked if tweeted information will be available from other sources, and Dr. Title said that would depend on what was being tweeted.

Mr. Dwyer confirmed that this will not be official communication.

Committee/Liaison Report

Mr. Patten noted that the RTM overwhelmingly approved the Riverfield and non-recurring projects.

Mr. Dwyer updated the Board on the By-Laws Advisory Ad-hoc Committee, an additional member is needed, after which a chair will be elected and members will decide on the timing and location of meetings; FOI rules must be followed in publishing the agenda and minutes.

Open Board Comment

Mr. Convertito had the pleasure of observing an elementary math PD and congratulated the staff on the collaborative effort. The Policy Committee is currently working with the allergy policy and he asked the community to be aware of the allergy risks.

Mr. Dwyer mentioned that the BOE meeting schedule for the year was placed at the Board table; items may be added; he also noted that he attended the Mill Hill playground dedication ceremony.

Mr. Llewellyn asked for a financial review on health insurance. Dr. Title and Mrs. Munsell added that AON does not provide this data until December.

Adjournment

Mrs. Gerber moved, Ms. Karnal seconded the recommended motion “that this Regular Meeting of the Board of Education adjourn”.

Motion passed 9-0

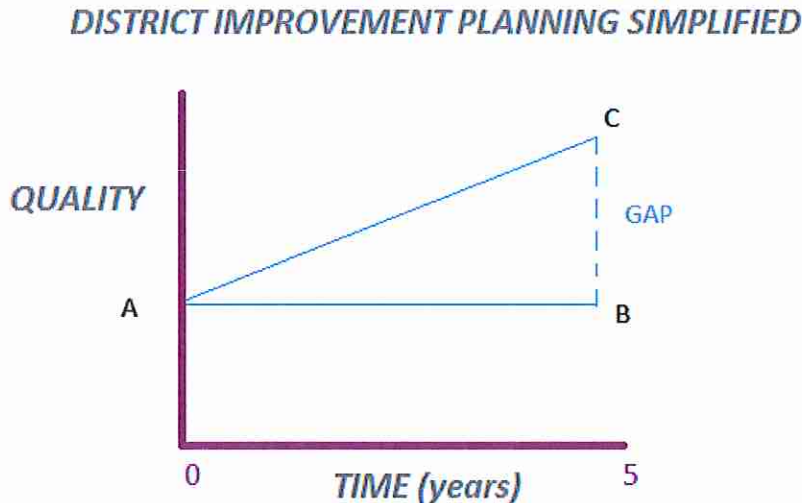
Meeting adjourned 10:51PM.

SEP 09 2014

Fairfield Public Schools

Process and Timeline for Developing a Long-Range District Improvement Plan

The process of district improvement over time can be represented by the following diagram, where the vertical axis represents school district quality and the horizontal axis represents time:



Point A represents the current state of the district. Point B indicates that, if no improvement efforts are undertaken, at the end of five years, district quality will be same as the current status. Some would argue that, with no improvement efforts, Point B would actually be lower than Point A due to changes in expectations that will likely occur over the next five years. Point C represents where the district desires to be in terms of quality, as articulated by its Mission and Goals. The purpose of the Plan is to design improvement efforts to move the District from Point B to Point C and measure the progress of these efforts and their impact on student learning.

Conceptually, long-range improvement consists of two distinct phases, one focusing on the ENDS and the other focusing on the MEANS. It is logical to develop the plan in the following sequence:

Part 1 -- Ends

1. Agreement of the Student Performance Indicators that would accurately represent the current status (Point A) and the desired status (Point C). This agreement comes in two parts:
 - a. Agreement on the Student Performance Indicators as outlined in the "Criteria for Quality Student Performance Indicators." These indicators are stated in terms of student achievement, learning or outcomes; NOT adult actions.

- b. Agreement on the five-year target for each Student Performance Indicator.

Part 2 – Means

2. Agreement on the strategies to be employed to achieve the ends in Part 1. These strategies, taken together, are sometimes referred to as a Theory of Action. These are adult actions that we believe will lead to improvement in student learning, achievement or other important student outcomes.
3. Agreement on the “Indicators of Progress” on these strategies. “Indicators of Progress” answer the question: if this strategy were fully implemented, what would it look like in practice? How would we know that we have accomplished this strategy?
4. Agreement on the specific actions to be taken that, if enacted, would fully implement each of the strategies identified in Step 2.

Proposed Process and Timeline

- August/Sept:* Administrative Team drafts potential Student Performance Indicators (1a).
- September:* Process for Plan Development shared with the Board of Education.
- October:* Administrative Team reviews feedback on the potential Performance Indicators, decides on list and identifies baseline measures if available (targets not set).
- November:* Administrative Team reviews potential Student Performance Indicators with Board of Education.
- Dec. – March:* Administrative Team drafts specific actions to be taken over a multi-year period to achieve the strategies, sets targets for each School Performance Indicator, and agrees on Indicators of Progress for each strategy.
- March:* Revision and presentation to Board of Education.
- April – May:* Further refinement of Plan, costing out of Plan.
- June:* Board of Education approval.
- July – August:* Administration determines implementation schedule for 2015-16 and begins implementation.