

These minutes were approved by the Torrington Board of Education on December 20, 2017.



## Torrington Board of Education

FIONA CAPPABIANCA  
BOE CHAIR

DENISE L. CLEMONS  
SUPERINTENDENT

### **Torrington Board of Education Special Meeting Discussion of Confidential Student Matter Tuesday, December 5, 5:30 p.m. 355 Migeon Avenue**

Members Present – Ms. Cappabianca (chair), Ms. Hoehne, Mr. Kissko, Mr. Vegaro

1. Call to Order – Approximately 5:36PM
2. Motion to go into executive session made by Mr. Vegaro, seconded by Ms. Hoehne. All in favor. Board enters in Executive Session to discuss a confidential student matter.

The Board invited the following individuals (in addition to Board members and its counsel, Jessica Ritter) into the executive session:

Denise Clemons, Superintendent

Michael McKeon, Attorney for the Administration

Dr. Jeffrey Shannon, Assistant Principal

Student who is the subject of the hearing, his father and his mother

Jeffrey Nichols, Esq., Attorney for the Family

Approximately 6:30PM-Everyone excused for Board deliberations, except for Board counsel, Jessica Ritter.

Approximately 6:42PM/ Meeting resumes. All meeting participants return. Mr. Vergaro makes the following motion in open session:

*That the Torrington Board of Education finds, based on the evidence in the record that the student who is the subject of this hearing did, on or about October 21, 2017 engage in the following conduct: engage in the unauthorized possession of a controlled substance on school grounds. Such conduct violated publicized policies of the Board, endangered persons, and was seriously disruptive of the educational process. As a result of the above*

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*findings, the Torrington Board of Education concludes that the student who is the subject of this hearing did commit an expellable offense.*

Motion to go into executive session made by Mr. Vergaro, seconded by Ms. Hoehne. All in favor.

Moved that the Board enter executive session to discuss a confidential student matter. The Board invited the individuals above.

Approximately 7:15PM-Everyone excused for Board deliberations, except for Board counsel, Jessica Ritter.

Approximately 7:25PM-Meeting resumes. All meeting participants return. Mr. Vergaro makes the following motion in open session:

*That the student who is the subject of this hearing shall be expelled from the Torrington Public Schools for one calendar year from the date of the incident, October 21, 2017. During the period of the expulsion the student who is the subject of this hearing shall not be allowed to enter any school property and/or participate in any school sponsored events and activities.*

*During the expulsion period, the student shall receive an alternative educational opportunity as deemed appropriate by the Superintendent.*

*The Student may be permitted early readmission to school on the first day of the second semester if the Superintendent finds, in her sole discretion, that the student has met the following conditions:*

- 1) The Student regularly participates, is cooperative, receives passing grades, and has no unexcused absences in the alternative educational program;*
- 2) The Student avoids any serious disciplinary incident that would result in an out of school suspension or expulsion as determined by the Superintendent;*
- 3) The Student avoids any action that results in an arrest;*

*If readmitted early, the Student will be on probation for the remainder of the original expulsion period. During the probation period, the Student must:*

- 1) Maintain passing grades;*
- 2) Avoid any serious disciplinary incident that would result in an out of school suspension or expulsion as determined by the Superintendent;*
- 3) Avoid any action that results in an arrest;*

*If the Student violates any of the conditions of this probationary period, the Superintendent is authorized to reinstate the remaining term of his expulsion without the necessity of any further action by the Board.*

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*If the student satisfactorily completes his probationary period, he and his family may petition the Board for expungement in accordance with state law.*

Seconded by Mr. Kissko. All in favor.

3. Adjournment: Mr. Vergaro moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Ms. Hoehne. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at approximately 7:30PM.