

MINUTES

**STEGER SCHOOL DISTRICT 194
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
Thursday, March 10, 2022
5:30 P.M.
Administration Center**

The meeting was called to order at 5:32 p.m. by Vice President Edwards. Members present Turner, Raymond, Edwards Sarek, and Butkus. Members absent: Helsel.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Board and audience recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

The parent of one of the students described the incident to the Board of Education from her view. The parent questioned why it took the teacher three days to get medical attention and asked her child to receive a second chance. The parent stated her child is remorseful.

CLOSED SESSION

The Open Meeting recessed at 5:38 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Sarek and seconded by Mrs. Turner.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:
Edwards, Raymond, Turner, Sarek, and Butkus.
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Helsel.
Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

The Board went into Closed Session at 5:50 p.m. a motion was made by Mrs. Turner and seconded by Mr. Sarek.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:
Edwards, Raymond, Turner, Sarek, and Butkus.
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Helsel.
Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

Also Present:
Dr. David Frusher, Bruce Nieminski, Tom Aguirre, and Melissa Cunha.

ACTION A. The Superintendent recommends the Board go into Closed Session to discuss:
 1. Student disciplinary matter – Case #20-22-01
 2. Student disciplinary matter – Case #20-22-02

ACTION B. Motion to adjourn Closed Session.

The Board adjourned Closed Session at 6:30 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Sarek and seconded by Ms. Butkus.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:
Edwards, Raymond, Turner, Sarek, and Butkus.
Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Helsel.
Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

ACTION C. Motion to return to Open Session.

The Board returned to Open Session at 6:32 p.m. a motion was made by Ms. Butkus and seconded by Mr. Sarek.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:

Edwards, Raymond, Turner, Sarek, and Butkus.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Helsel.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

Board Matters

A motion was made by Mr. Sarek and seconded by Ms. Butkus to approve the following item under Board Matters:

ACTION A. **STUDENT DISCIPLINARY ACTION**
Student Discipline Case #20-22-01

I move that, based upon and after the Board's consideration of the evidence and testimony of the expulsion hearing held on, March 7, 2022, the Board of Education finds that Student No. #20-22-01 has committed acts of gross misconduct as described by the District's Administration, in violation of Board Policy 7:190, *Student Behavior*.

I move that the Board of Education expel the student from Steger School District 194, for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year and the entirety of the 2022-2023 school year, but that the expulsion be held in abeyance and the student be administratively transferred to an alternative school, as determined by the District's Administration, pursuant to Article 13A of the Illinois School Code.

Additionally, I move that the student shall not be permitted to be on or about District property or attend any District related activity, event or function, regardless of location, for the duration of the expulsion period, unless the student obtains prior and express consent to be present from the Superintendent. The Board finds that prior to considering a recommendation for expulsion, the District's Administration attempted and exhausted other appropriate and available behavioral and disciplinary interventions and/or determined there are no other appropriate and available behavioral and disciplinary interventions.

The Board finds that, based on evidence presented in the hearing, removing the student from the learning environment is in the best interest of the school because his behavior poses a threat to the safety of other students, staff, or members of the school community and/or substantially disrupts, impedes or interferes with the operation of the school.

The Board finds that, based on evidence presented in the hearing, the duration of the student's expulsion is appropriate based on the recent disciplinary history of the student, the severity of the behavior and risk of harm to students, and/or the substantial disruption of the school and instruction, and ongoing impact on the school environment.

The expulsion being held in abeyance is contingent upon the student's full participation, during the remainder of the expulsion period, in the alternative school program, including regularly attending school; complying with attendance policies, school rules, and any referrals for services or counseling made by the alternative school; and successfully completing the alternative school's curriculum. I move that, should the student fail to fully participate in the alternative school program and/or the alternative school refers the student back to the District, the student shall be immediately expelled from Steger School District 194, for the remainder of the District Administration's recommended expulsion duration, without further action of the Board.

A motion was made by Mrs. Raymond and seconded by Mr. Sarek to approve the following item under Board Matters:

ACTION B. **STUDENT DISCIPLINARY ACTION**
Student Discipline Case #20-22-02

I move that, based upon and after the Board's consideration of the evidence and testimony of the expulsion hearing held on, March 7, 2022, the Board of Education finds that Student No. #20-22-02 has committed acts of gross misconduct as described by the District's Administration, in violation of Board Policy 7:190, *Student Behavior*.

I move that the Board of Education expel the student from Steger School District 194, for the remainder of the 2021-2022 school year and the entirety of the 2022-2023 school year, but that the expulsion be held in abeyance and the student be administratively transferred to an alternative school, as determined by the District's Administration, pursuant to Article 13A of the Illinois School Code.

Additionally, I move that the student shall not be permitted to be on or about District property or attend any District related activity, event or function, regardless of location, for the duration of the expulsion period, unless the student obtains prior and express consent to be present from the Superintendent. The Board finds that prior to considering a recommendation for expulsion, the District's Administration attempted and exhausted other appropriate and available behavioral and disciplinary interventions and/or determined there are no other appropriate and available behavioral and disciplinary interventions.

The Board finds that, based on evidence presented in the hearing, removing the student from the learning environment is in the best interest of the school because his behavior poses a threat to the safety of other students, staff, or members of the school community and/or substantially disrupts, impedes or interferes with the operation of the school.

The Board finds that, based on evidence presented in the hearing, the duration of the student's expulsion is appropriate based on the recent disciplinary history of the student, the severity of the behavior and risk of harm to students, and/or the substantial disruption of the school and instruction, and ongoing impact on the school environment.

The expulsion being held in abeyance is contingent upon the student's full participation, during the remainder of the expulsion period, in the alternative school program, including regularly attending school; complying with attendance policies, school rules, and any referrals for services or counseling made by the alternative school; and successfully completing the alternative school's curriculum. I move that, should the student fail to fully participate in the alternative school program and/or the alternative school refers the student back to the District, the student shall be immediately expelled from Steger School District 194, for the remainder of the District Administration's recommended expulsion duration, without further action of the Board.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6:40 p.m. a motion was made by Mr. Sarek and seconded by Ms. Butkus to adjourn the meeting.

Upon roll call all members voting aye:

Edwards, Raymond, Turner, Sarek, and Butkus.

Members voting nay: None. Members absent: Helsel.

Members abstaining: None. Motion carried.

Secretary, Board of Education

President, Board of Education