

SPECIAL MEETING OF
THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD
HELD AUGUST 13, 2014

A special meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Wednesday, August 13, 2014, in the Board Room at the Educational Support Center. The purpose of this meeting was for considering and deliberating over administration's recommendation to terminate the employment of a professional staff member and the response, if any, by the professional staff member and his representatives, for considering the professional staff member's employment including the professional staff member's resignation or such other employment agreement, for the purpose of conferring with legal counsel who will be rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the Board with respect to the termination recommendation and/or response, and to adjourn into executive (closed) session pursuant to Wisconsin Statutes Sections 19.85(1)(a) to deliberate concerning a case which was the subject of a quasi-judicial hearing before the Board, (b) to consider the dismissal or discipline of any public employee, the investigation of charges against such person, and the taking of formal action on any such matter, (c) to consider employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility, and (g) to confer with legal counsel for the governmental body who is rendering oral or written advice concerning strategy to be adopted by the body with respect to litigation in which it is or is likely to become involved.

The meeting was called to order at 5:38 P.M. with the following members present: Mr. Kunich, Mr. Flood, Mr. Bryan, Mrs. Snyder, Mr. Wade, and Mrs. Coleman. Ms. Stevens was excused. Attorney David Rohrer from Boardman & Clark, LLP, Attorney Joel Aziere from Buelow, Vetter, Buikema, Olson, & Vliet, LLC, Attorney Terry Rose from Rose & Rose, Dr. Savaglio-Jarvis, Mrs. Glass, Mr. Norris Jones, and Ms. Peggy Mitchell from Brown & Jones Reporting were also present.

Mrs. Coleman opened the meeting by announcing that this was a special meeting of the School Board of the Kenosha Unified School District Notice of this special meeting was given to the public by forwarding a copy of the notice to all requesting radio stations and newspapers.

Mrs. Coleman asked for a motion to recess into closed session.

Mr. Kunich moved to recess into closed session. Mr. Bryan seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

The Board recessed into closed session at 5:40 P.M.

Attorney Rohrer informed Board members of the procedures for the upcoming meeting regarding the consideration of the dismissal or discipline of an employee.

The Board returned to the meeting at 5:55 P.M.

Mrs. Coleman asked for a motion to reconvene the meeting.

Mr. Wade moved to reconvene the meeting. Mr. Flood seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Kunich recused himself from the meeting and left the dais at 5:57 P.M.

Attorney Rose requested that individuals who would be giving testimony be sequestered. The Board granted the request of Attorney Rose.

Attorney Aziere and Attorney Rose gave their opening statements.

Attorney Aziere distributed Exhibits 1-8.

Mr. Andrew Baumgart, Principal at Bullen Middle School, arrived at 6:41 P.M. and was sworn in. Mr. Baumgart answered questions of Attorney Aziere.

Mr. Rose distributed Exhibits 9-17.

Mr. Baumgart answered question of Attorney Rose and Board members and was excused at 7:31 P.M.

The Board recessed at 7:31 P.M. and reconvened at 7:39 P.M.

Mrs. Annie Petering, Human Resource Specialist, arrived at 7:40 P.M. and was sworn in.

Mrs. Petering answered questions of Attorney Aziere, Attorney Rose, and Board members. Mrs. Petering was excused at 8:20 P.M.

Mrs. Kristen McCollum, teacher at Bullen Middle School, arrived at 8:22 P.M. and was sworn in.

Mrs. McCollum answered questions of Attorney Aziere, Attorney Rose, and Board members. Mrs. McCollum was excused at 8:47 P.M.

Mrs. Denise Wittler, teacher at Bullen Middle School, arrived at 8:36 P.M. and was sworn in.

Mrs. Wittler answered questions of Attorney Aziere, Attorney Rose, and Board members. Mrs. Wittler was excused at 8:47 P.M.

Mr. Peter Elliker, teacher at Bullen Middle School, arrived at 8:49 P.M. and was sworn in.

Mr. Elliker answered questions of Attorney Aziere, Attorney Rose, and Board members. Mr. Elliker was excused at 9:12 P.M.

Mr. Jones was sworn in and answered questions of Attorney Aziere, Attorney Rose, and Board members.

The Board recessed at 9:44 P.M. and reconvened at 9:50 P.M.

Attorney Aziere and Attorney Rose made their closing statements.

Mrs. Coleman asked for a motion to recess into closed session.

Mr. Bryan moved to recess into closed session. Mr. Flood seconded the motion.

Roll call vote. Ayes: Mr. Flood, Mr. Bryan, Mrs. Snyder, Mr. Wade, and Mrs. Coleman. Noes: None. Unanimously approved.

The Board recessed into closed session at 10:25 P.M.

Board members discussed the information presented regarding consideration of the dismissal or discipline of an employee and conferred with Attorney Rohrer regarding written findings.

Board members returned to the meeting at 11:11 P.M.

Mrs. Coleman asked for a motion to reconvene the meeting.

Mr. Bryan moved to reconvene the meeting. Mr. Flood seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mr. Wade moved that based on the record developed at tonight's hearing, the Board finds that Administration met their burden of proof for just cause for the termination of Mr. Jones' employment contract as set forth in Exhibit 7, excluding item 4 bullet 1, and directs counsel to prepare further detailed findings. Mrs. Snyder seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Mrs. Coleman requested that the findings be complete within five business days.

Mr. Bryan moved to adjourn the meeting. Mr. Flood seconded the motion. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 11:13 P.M.

Stacy Schroeder Busby
School Board Secretary