SPECIAL MEETING & EXECUTIVE SESSION OF THE KENOSHA UNIFIED SCHOOL BOARD HELD NOVEMBER 27, 2023

A special meeting of the Kenosha Unified School Board was held on Monday, November 27, 2023, in the Board Room at the John J. Hosmanek Educational Support Center. The purpose of this meeting was to vote on holding an executive session to follow immediately.

The meeting was called to order at 5:04 p.m. with the following members present: Mr. Meadows, Mrs. Modder, Mrs. Schmaling, and Ms. Stevens. Dr. Weiss, Mr. Neir, Attorney Christine Hamiel from Attolles Law, s.c., Attorney Lori Lubinsky from Axley Attorneys, and Ms. Susan Taylor, court reporter, were also present.

Mrs. Modder, Vice President, 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. Modder announced that an executive session had been scheduled to follow this special meeting to deliberate concerning a case which was the subject of a quasijudicial hearing before the Board, to consider the dismissal or discipline of a public employee, the investigation of charges against such person, the taking of formal action on any such matter, and to consider the employment, promotion, compensation or performance evaluation data of any public employee over which the governmental body has jurisdiction or exercises responsibility.

Mr. Meadows moved that the executive session be held. Mrs. Schmaling seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously. Moved into executive session at 5:06 p.m.

Mr. Battle arrived at 5:07 p.m.

1. Termination Hearing

Attorney Labinsky noted that the District sent a notice of hearing letter to the employee.

Attorney Hamiel noted that the statement of charges was not sent with the letter dated 11-17-23, but was later sent on 11-22-23. The original letters were sent to the employee's home address, although he is currently in custody awaiting disposition of charges in the Kenosha County jail. Copies of the notice were sent to the jail and delivered on 11-24-23.

Mr. Kevin Neir, Chief Human Resources Officer, was sworn in by the court reporter. Mr. Neir presented information to the board including student statements, interviews, employee statement, and all the exhibits in relation to the termination of the District employee. With the employee's admission and statements to Administration, the District recommends termination as the appropriate action.

Board members were given time to ask questions.

Dr. Jeff Weiss, Superintendent, was sworn in at 5:19 p.m. by the court reporter and was allowed to answer the board's questions along with Mr. Neir.

Board members and Attorney Lori Lubinsky moved to the small board room to discuss the case privately. There was consensus for termination of the District employee.

Mrs. Modder made a motion to reconvene open session in the Board Room. Second by Mr. Meadows. Motion carried unanimously.

Open session was reconvened at 5:28 p.m.

Mr. Battle made a motion to terminate the employment of Mr. Nathan Gardner, as well as to terminate the employment contract between Mr. Gardner and KUSD. Second by Mr. Meadows. Motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Stevens moved to adjourn the meeting. Second by Mr. Meadows. Motion carried unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 5:33 p.m.

Denise Ewing School Board Secretary