

BETTENDORF COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
BETTENDORF, IOWA

Unofficial Minutes of the December 5, 2019 Special Meeting
of the Board of Education
(*pending Board approval*)

1. Call to Order.

The Board of Directors of the Bettendorf Community School District, in the County of Scott, State of Iowa, met in open session according to Iowa law for a special Board meeting at the Administration Center, 3311 18th Street, Bettendorf, Iowa, on December 5, 2019. President Holland called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Colleen Skolrood, Board Secretary, verified that the meeting notice had been posted and mailed to the media as required by law.

Members present: Directors Castro, Champion, Eastman, Holland, Lynch

Members absent: Directors Doerder, Pyevich

Other officials present: Mike Raso, Superintendent; Joy Kelly, BHS Principal; Colin Wikan, BHS Associate Principal; Matt Poirier, Bettendorf Police Officer; Wendy Meyer, Legal Counsel; Colleen Skolrood, Board Secretary.

2. Agenda Approval.

Motion by Director Champion, seconded by Director Lynch, to approve the agenda as printed.

Ayes: 5 Directors Castro, Champion, Eastman, Holland, Lynch

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Directors Doerder, Pyevich

Motion carried 5-0-2

3. Closed Session.

Motion by Director Eastman, seconded by Director Champion, to enter into closed session as provided in Chapter 21.5 (1.e) of the Open Meetings Law to discuss whether to conduct a hearing to determine whether to suspend or expel a student.

Ayes: 5 Directors Champion, Eastman, Holland, Lynch, Castro

Nays: 0

Absent: 2 Directors Doerder, Pyevich

Motion carried 5-0-2

Directors entered into closed session at 6:03 p.m.

4. Return to Open Session.

Directors returned to open session at 8:35 p.m.

Motion by Director Lynch, seconded by Director Champion, that the Board made the following findings of fact:

- The student possessed an airsoft gun on school property and caused injury to another student;
- The airsoft gun meets the definition of a firearm as set by District Board Policy;
- District policy contemplates an expulsion for no less than one year but there was a

- recommendation to modify the expulsion requirement;
- In his testimony, the student was credible and remorseful;
- However, his behavior is in violation of the Bettendorf High School Parent and Student Handbook and Bettendorf Community School District Board Policies.

Based on the findings of fact, the Board further finds that the continued presence of this student would be detrimental to the best interest of the district.

There are no special circumstances applicable here which warrant an exercise of the Board's discretion to impose a lesser penalty than expulsion.

The student is expelled through the end of the 2019/20 school year. During such expulsion, administration will arrange to provide student services to allow him to complete the credits necessary for him to graduate with the class of 2020. If the student completes such credits necessary for him to graduate with the class of 2020, the student will be reinstated as a Bettendorf student on May 31, 2020 solely for the purpose of participating in the graduation ceremony.

During the period of expulsion the student is not allowed on any Bettendorf Community School District property or at any school event where a Bettendorf team is participating. The student is directed not to have contact or take action with regard to any student or staff member who provided adverse testimony or information in this case.

Ayes: 3 Directors Eastman, Lynch, Champion
Nays: 2 Directors Holland, Castro
Absent: 2 Directors Doerder, Pyevich
Motion carried 3-2-2

5. Adjournment.

Motion by Director Castro to adjourn the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Adam Holland, President

ATTEST:

Colleen Skolrood, Secretary