

**NEW FAIRFIELD BOARD OF EDUCATION  
MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING  
February 5, 2020**

**Board Members Present:** Greg Flanagan, Kimberly LaTourette, Rick Regan, Ed Sbordone

**Time Meeting Called to Order:** Approximately 3:43 p.m.

**Motion for Executive Session:** Motion that the New Fairfield Board of Education enter executive session to discuss a confidential student matter under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-200(6) and § 1-210(b)(17).

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

Dr. Patricia Cosentino, Superintendent of Schools  
James D'Amico, Principal of New Fairfield High School  
Scott Rohwedder, Assistant Principal of New Fairfield High School  
Student who is the subject of the hearing, the Student's mother and father

**Motion:** Motion to go into executive session made by Edward Sbordone, seconded by Kimberly LaTourette. Approved 4-0.

Approximately 3:55 p.m.            Everyone excused for Board deliberations, except for Board counsel, Natalia Sieira Millan.

Approximately 4:08 p.m.            Meeting resumes. All meeting participants return.

Edward Sbordone makes the following motion in open session:

**Motion:** That the New Fairfield Board of Education finds that the Student who is the subject of this hearing did, on January 23, 2020, possess a controlled substance on school grounds. Such conduct violated a publicized policy of the Board, endangered persons, and was seriously disruptive of the educational process. As a result of the above findings, the New Fairfield Board of Education concludes that the Student who is the subject of this hearing did commit an expellable offense.

Motion seconded by Greg Flanagan. Approved 4-0.

Motion to go into executive session made by Edward Sbordone, seconded by Rick Regan. Approved 4-0.

**Motion:** That the New Fairfield Board of Education enter executive session to discuss a confidential student mater under Conn. Gen. Stat. § 1-200(6) and § 1-210(b)(17)

The same individuals listed above were invited into executive session.

Approximately 4:20 p.m.            Everyone excused for Board deliberations, except for Board counsel, Natalia Sieira Millan.

Approximately 4:42 p.m.            Meeting resumes. All meeting participants return.

Edward Sbordone authorized Board counsel, Natalia Sieira Millan, to make the following motion in open session:

**Motion:** Moved that the Student who is the subject of this hearing shall be expelled from the New Fairfield Public Schools for one calendar year, until January 23, 2021, and that the Student be provided an alternative educational opportunity in accordance with the law. 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, including graduation and all other end of the year activities, except for the Student's participation in the alternative educational opportunity provided by the New Fairfield Public Schools or as otherwise expressly authorized in writing by the Superintendent or the Superintendent's designee.

If the Student successfully complies with the following conditions, the Student will be permitted to walk at Graduation:

1. Maintain passing grades;
2. Avoid any disciplinary incident that would result in a school suspension or expulsion as determined by the Superintendent;
3. Avoid any action that results in arrest;
4. Must not violate any Board policy as determined by the Superintendent;
5. Must not have any unexcused absences; and
6. Must test negative on all random drug tests performed by the probation officer. Furthermore, the parents must sign a release of information for the Superintendent to have direct contact with the Student's probation officer and to receive copies of all documents.

If the Student violates any of the conditions set forth above, the Student will not be permitted to walk at Graduation.

Motion seconded by Kimberly LaTourette. Approved 4-0.

At approximately 4:50 p.m., Edward Sbordone moved to adjourn meeting, seconded by Kimberly LaTourette. Motion Approved 4-0.