East Lansing Public Schools Board Resolution for Student Discipline #1005804

A special meeting of the Board of Education (the "Board") was held in the Board Room located at 509 Burcham Drive, within the boundaries of the District, on January 22, 2025, at 12:00 o'clock in the p.m. (the "Meeting").

The Meeting was called to order by Elizabeth Lyons, Vice-President

Present: Elizabeth Lyons, Tali Faris-Hylen, Kath Edsall, Terah Chambers, Estrella Torrez, Abbie Tykocki

Absent: Chris Martin

The following preamble and resolution were offered by Member Faris-Hylen and supported by Member Chambers

WHEREAS:

1. The administration has recommended that, pursuant to Revised School Code Section 1311(2), Student #1005804 whose identity is known to the Board (the "Student") be expelled from school for possessing a dangerous weapon (knife with a blade over 3") in a weapon-free school zone.

2. School administrators notified the Student's parent/guardian of the specific charge underlying the disciplinary recommendation, as well as the date, time, and place of the disciplinary hearing.

3. Pursuant to the request of the Student's parent/guardian, and as authorized by Michigan Open Meetings Act Section 8(b), MCL 15.268(b), the disciplinary hearing was conducted in a closed session meeting of the Board.

4. The hearing afforded the Student and the Student's representatives an opportunity to respond to the charge and to present pertinent evidence for the Board's consideration.

5. The Board has carefully considered all of the evidence produced in this student discipline hearing.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

1. A preponderance of the evidence establishes that on December 20, 2024, the Student possessed a dangerous weapon (knife with a blade over 3") in a weapon-free school zone.

2. Clear and convincing evidence establishes that the Student possessed the object or instrument for use as a weapon.

3. Based on careful consideration of all of the following factors, the Board determines that expulsion is warranted:

- The Student's age;
- The Student's disciplinary history;
- Whether the Student has a disability;

- The seriousness of the behavior;
- Whether the behavior posed a safety risk;
- Whether restorative practices are a better option; and
- Whether lesser interventions would address the behavior.

4. Based on the above factors, the Student is not permanently expelled from the District but instead is expelled through June 6, 2025. The Student must also:

- Participate in the Prevent 2 Protect program;
- Participate in a re-entry meeting with parent/guardian and school staff; and
- Comply with a Safety Plan upon school re-entry.

The Student's failure to complete these actions may result in additional consequences.

5. During the time of the expulsion, the Student may not be on school grounds or attend any functions at the District without prior written approval from an appropriate administrator.

6. Administrators shall refer the Student to the county department of social services or the county community mental health agency and to notify the Student's parent/guardian of the referral within 3 calendar days of this Resolution.

7. Consistent with Revised School Code Sections 11a and 1311(1), the Board finds that the interests of the District are served by this resolution.

8. Consistent with the Board's actions taken this date, administration shall promptly meet with the Student's parent/guardian to determine those appropriate educational services to which the Student may be entitled under state and federal law.

9. Administrators are directed and authorized to implement all terms of this resolution and are delegated all necessary authority to do so.

10. All resolutions and parts of resolutions that conflict with this resolution are rescinded.

Ayes: Elizabeth Lyons, Tali Faris-Hylen, Kath Edsall, Terah Chambers, Estrella Torrez, Abbie Tykocki

Nays: None

Absent: Chris Martin

Resolution declared adopted.

The undersigned, duly qualified and acting Secretary to the Board of Education of East Lansing Public Schools, certifies that the foregoing constitutes a true and complete copy of a resolution adopted by said Board at the Meeting, the original of which is part of the Board's minutes. The undersigned further certifies that notice of the meeting was given to the public pursuant to the provisions of the "Open Meetings Act" (Act 267, Public Acts of Michigan, 1976, as amended).

Tali Faris-Hylen, Board Secretary