

MINUTES

**SPECIAL MEETING
COMMERCE BOARD OF EDUCATION
MAY 2, 2011
6:30 P.M.
BOARD OF EDUCATION BUILDING
217 COMMERCE STREET
COMMERCE, OKLAHOMA**

1. President Steve Hartman called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. Those present were Hartman, Gene Langston, Jim Cossairt, Kevin Reading, and Kenny Smith. Attorney Bryan Drummond and Superintendent Jim Haynes were also present.
2. The Invocation was given by Cossairt.
3. Student Suspension Due Process Appeal Hearing for Student "A."
 - a. Hartman asked the parents/student whether they wished the hearing to be in open session or in executive session. The parent requested that the hearing be conducted in open session. Trish Price, minute's clerk and notary public, administered the oath to the witnesses.
 - b. High School Principal Jim Buttram made an opening statement.
 - c. Misty Snow, mother of the student, made an opening statement.
 - d. Buttram testified as to what happened and presented the Policy on Student Behavior and Discipline and the student suspension documents into evidence. Snow then cross-examined Buttram. Buttram then called Kim McLain, high school teacher, as a witness and questioned her. Then McLain was cross-examined by Snow. Buttram then called Julian Arizpe, the student, for questioning. Then, Snow cross-examined her son.
 - e. Snow called Ms. Adrienne Herrera, her daughter and sister of the student, as a witness. Herrera made a statement as to what she had witnessed. Questions were then asked by Buttram, Langston, and Snow. Snow then recalled Arizpe for further questioning. Buttram then asked more questions and questions were asked by Smith and Cossairt. Snow then recalled Buttram for further cross-examination.
 - f. No rebuttal evidence or surrebuttal evidence were presented.
 - g. In her closing statement, Snow informed the board that she knew her son needed to be punished for what he had done, but she thought the 28 day suspension was extreme.
 - h. Buttram read a closing statement requesting the board of education uphold the suspension for the remainder of the school year.
 - i. Motion by Reading, second by Cossairt to convene in executive session. Vote: Reading-yes, Cossairt-yes, Hartman-yes, Langston-yes and Smith-yes. Time 7:34 p.m.
 - j. Motion by Smith, second by Reading, to acknowledge the board's return to open session. Vote: Smith-yes, Reading-yes, Hartman-yes, Langston-yes and Cossairt-yes. Time 8:23 p.m.

- k. Hartman announced, "Only the item listed on the executive session agenda was discussed and no votes were taken. Those present in executive session were the five Board members and Attorney Bryan Drummond."
 - l. Attorney Drummond read the proposed findings of fact. Motion by Langston, second by Smith to adopt findings of fact on the suspension of Julian Arizpe. Vote: Langston-yes, Smith-yes, Hartman-yes, Cossairt-yes and Reading-yes.
 - m. Motion by Langston, second by Cossairt that Julian Arizpe is to be suspended for the remainder of the school year. Vote: Langston-yes, Cossairt-yes, Hartman-yes, Reading-yes and Smith-yes.
4. Motion by Langston, second by Reading, to adjourn. Vote: Langston-yes, Reading-yes, Hartman-yes, Cossairt-yes and Smith-yes. Time 8:27 p.m.

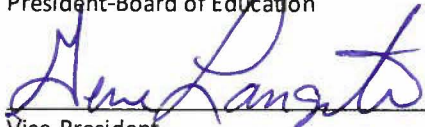
The agenda was posted on the inside of the front door (visible from outside the building) of the Board of Education building at 10:00 a.m. on the 28th day of April, 2011, by Superintendent Jim Haynes and notice of this special meeting was given in writing to the Ottawa County Clerk at least forty-eight (48) hours prior to said meeting by Superintendent Jim Haynes.

(ATTEST)




President-Board of Education

Deputy Clerk



Vice-President




Member



Clerk

Date: 05/09/2011



Minutes Clerk

Date: 5-9-11

