
**HAMILTON COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
MINUTES OF EXPULSION HEARINGS, REGULAR MEETING, & PUBLIC HEARING
JANUARY 11, 2010**

The Hamilton County School Board met in the Board Room of the District Administration Building on Monday, January 11, 2010. Present were Superintendent Martha Butler and school board members Don Fenneman (Chair), Damon Deas (Vice-Chair), Jeanie Daniels Gary Godwin, & Joyce Shaw, and Board attorney Jay Willingham.

Expulsion Hearings

1. Expulsion hearing scheduled for 5:00 p.m.
The hearing began at 5:05 p.m. The student, the student's parent, and another individual were present. Mr. Bernard Perry represented Hamilton County High School. Mr. Thomas Jackson, Mrs. Barbara Daniels, and Sgt. Anthony Williams were also present. Witnesses were sworn in by Mr. Willingham. Motion to approve the findings of facts as summarized by the Chairman by Mr. Deas and seconded by Mr. Godwin; the motion carried unanimously. Superintendent's recommendation: expulsion of the student for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year. It is noted that the student is not allowed on any school district property for any reason during the expulsion period. Motion to approve by Mr. Deas and seconded by Mr. Godwin; the motion carried unanimously. (Supplement 2010-08) The hearing concluded at 5:42 p.m.
2. Expulsion hearing scheduled for 5:15 p.m.
This hearing was rescheduled for January 25 at 4 p.m.
3. Expulsion hearing scheduled for 5:30 p.m.
The hearing began at 5:50 p.m. The student and the student's parents were present. Mr. Bernard Perry represented Hamilton County High School. Mrs. Barbara Daniels and Sgt. Anthony Williams were also present. Mr. Julio Torres served as the interpreter. Individuals were sworn in by Mr. Willingham. Motion to approve the findings of facts as summarized by the Chairman by Mr. Deas and seconded by Mrs. Shaw; the motion carried unanimously. Superintendent's recommendation: placement of the student in the Success Alternative Education Program, effective Wednesday, January 20, 2010 through the end of the third grading period. Pending the student's performance in the program, the Superintendent will recommend a return to the high school for the fourth grading period. The student is not allowed on any other school district property, or to attend any extra-curricular activity without the specific approval of the principal in charge of the school property or activity during this period. Motion to approve by Mrs. Daniels and seconded by Mrs. Shaw; the motion carried unanimously. Information regarding the program was provided and Mr. Fenneman and Mr. Torres reviewed the terms of the contract. (Supplement 2010-06) The hearing concluded at 6:25 p.m.
4. Expulsion review
The review began at 6:27 p.m. As per the conditions of a previous expulsion issue, it is noted that the student and student's parent appeared before the Board for consideration of the student's placement for the remainder of the 2009-2010 school year. Mr. Bernard Perry represented Hamilton County High School. Superintendent's recommendation: approval to allow the student to return to the high school, effective Wednesday, January 20, 2010. Motion to approve by Mr. Deas and seconded by Mrs. Shaw; the motion carried unanimously. (Supplement 2009-31) The review concluded at 6:37 p.m.

Regular Meeting

Call to Order – by Mr. Fenneman at 6:45 p.m.

- a. Prayer – led by Mr. Mitchell
- b. Pledge to flag – led by Mr. Law

Presentations

NEFEC Staff – Skyward software

Mr. Candy Garcia provided a brief history of NEFEC's data center and presented information on the Skyward platform, which focuses strictly on K-12 education. Several districts presently use this program, which streamlines operations and allows employees to work more efficiently. Ms. Penner and Mr. Mitchell provided additional comments.

Delegations/Individual Appearances (Limit 3 minutes)

Jane Lowe

Mrs. Lowe addressed the Board regarding teacher compensation and teacher workload. She stated that teachers are overwhelmed by what is required of them. There are some teachers who are not doing their jobs, but others who are conscientious. She added that she has not been able to add lesson plans to the computer all year due to the time it takes to do so. Teachers are calling in sick just

to stay home and grade papers. So much is being required of them, and there are some teachers who will have worked four years without a raise. Mrs. Lowe commented that children have changed in the last thirty years and that the children of today will not work.

Agenda Modifications

The Superintendent asked that the agenda be modified by adding Item #10: athletic schedules, Item #11: trip request, and Item #12: discussion and possible action regarding cemetery and surrounding property. The Chairman deemed the additions as emergencies for timely action by the Board. Motion to amend by Mrs. Shaw and seconded by Mr. Deas; the motion carried unanimously.

Consent Agenda Items

Superintendent's recommendation: approval of the items listed on the consent agenda. Motion to approve by Mr. Deas and seconded by Mr. Godwin; the motion carried unanimously.

1. Minutes
Approval of the minutes of December 14, 2009.
2. Paid bills
Approval of the paid bills for December 4, 11, and 18, 2009. (Supplement 6225)
3. Financial statement
Approval of the financial statement for October 2009. (Supplement 6226)
4. Attendance requests
Approval of several requests.
5. Personnel
Approval of the appointment of Talena Hicks to an instructional position, supplemental appointments for 2009-2010, substitute approval, and the approval of leave requests requiring Board action. (Supplement 6227)
6. Amendment to FSU subcontract
Approval of the above-referenced item. (Supplement 6228)
7. School improvement plans
Approval of the school improvement plans for Central Hamilton Elementary, Hamilton County High School, North Hamilton Elementary, South Hamilton Elementary, Greenwood School, and Panther Success Center.

Regular Agenda Items

8. Selection of SSDCC liaison
Mrs. Shaw agreed to serve as the liaison.
9. Memorandum of Understanding: "Race to the Top"
Additional materials were distributed to the Board and Mr. Law, and the Superintendent shared information regarding this item. Mr. Willingham clarified the modification to the document, and Mr. Fenneman asked Mr. Law for his input. Mr. Law responded that if put "on the spot," he would have to say "no" to signing, but would have no problem signing if he knew a plan could be developed that both sides could agree on. Superintendent's recommendation: approval of the above-referenced item. Motion to approve by Mr. Godwin and Mrs. Daniels; the motion carried unanimously. It is noted that the document was signed by Mrs. Butler, Mr. Fenneman, and Mr. Law. (Supplement 6229)
10. Athletic schedules
Superintendent's recommendation: approval of the schedules for varsity baseball and varsity softball. Motion to approve by Mr. Godwin and seconded by Mrs. Daniels; the motion carried unanimously. (Supplement 6230)
11. Trip request
Superintendent's recommendation: approval of the request from the high school. Motion to approve by Mr. Deas and seconded by Mrs. Daniels; the motion carried unanimously. (Supplement 6231)
12. Discussion & possible action re: cemetery and surrounding property
The Superintendent and Mr. Willingham shared information regarding this item. Superintendent's recommendation: approval to issue the deed for the cemetery to Mrs. Hall and advertise the surrounding property for bids. Motion to approve by Mr. Godwin and seconded by Mr. Deas; the motion carried unanimously.

- 5.11 Student Detention, Search & Seizure Revise
- 5.13 Zero Tolerance for School Related Crimes Revise
- 5.15 Administer of Medicine During School Hours Revise
- 6.133 Assisting Teachers to Become Highly Qualified Revise
- 6.14 Employment of Athletic Coaches who are not Fulltime Employees of the Revise
School Board
- 6.18 Contracts: Instructional and Administrative Personnel Revise
- 6.44 Telephone Calls, Electronic Communications and Facsimiles Revise
- 6.441 Employee Use of Cellular Telephones Revise
- 6.80 Personnel Files Revise
- 9.15 Community Service Adopt

The hearing concluded at 8:30 p.m.

Martha Butler
Superintendent

Minutes are pending Board approval on February 8, 2010.