

# **PUTNAM BOARD OF EDUCATION**

## **Special Meeting December 13, 2023 Secretary's Report**

The Putnam Board of Education met in special session on Wednesday, December 13, 2023 at 5:15 PM in the Board of Education Conference Room 15.

Attendance: Mike Morrill, Chris Stewart, and Chad Neal

Others: Steven Rioux, Superintendent and the Parent of the student.

### **1. CALL TO ORDER**

Mike Morrill called the meeting to order at 5:15 PM

### **2. EXECUTIVE SESSION (Student Record)**

Mike Morrill made a motion to enter executive session at 5:15 PM. For the purpose of a student matter that would likely involve the disclosure of public records pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Sections 1-210(b)(2), (11), and (17). The motion was seconded by Chad Neal and passed unanimously. The Board invited the following individuals into the Executive Session:

Mr Rioux and the Parent of the Student were invited to attend.

Executive session ended at 5:26 PM.

### **3. BUSINESS (For Discussion and Possible Action)**

#### **a. Student Matter**

Mike Morrill made a motion to expel the student, and moved that the Board accept in its entirety the stipulation as presented, pursuant to Connecticut General Statutes Section 10-233d, and consistent with the terms of the stipulation, the Board expel the student discussed in executive session. The stipulation shall constitute the written communication to the parties regarding the Board's decision and the reasons therefore, consistent with the Board's executive session discussion. The motion was seconded by Chris Stewart and passed unanimously. The stipulation agreement will be entered into the minutes as presented, with the redaction of the student's name and parent's name.

- 1) The student is currently enrolled as a student at Putnam Middle School.

- 2) The parties stipulate that sufficient evidence exists to support the conclusion that the student engaged in the following conduct while a student at Webster Public School, which violated Putnam Board of Education Policy 5114.
  - a) Intentionally causing or attempting to cause damage to school property or material belonging to staff (private property).
- 3) The student's conduct was seriously disruptive of the educational process and/or endangered persons and property, and the conduct was an offense for which he was expelled from school for ninety (90) days by the Webster Public School District.
- 4) The Parent and the Student agree and stipulate that they received proper notice of the expulsion hearing concerning the Superintendent's recommendation to acknowledge that the offense was also an expellable offense per Putnam Public Schools Board Policy 5114 based on the misconduct set forth in paragraph 3 above.
- 5) Subject to the approval of the Putnam Board of Education (the "Board"), the student shall be expelled from school, effective immediately and continuing through March 5, 2024, under the following conditions:
  - a) During the period of expulsion, the Board will provide the student with an alternative education opportunity deemed appropriate by the Administration in accordance with state statute.
  - b) During the period of expulsion, the student will not be permitted to be on school grounds and will not be permitted to attend or participate in any school-sponsored activities, except to participate in the alternative education opportunity, if necessary.
  - c) Notwithstanding the above, the student, will be eligible to apply for a conditional readmittance to Putnam Middle School on January 22, 2024. Upon such request, the Superintendent will review the following conditions for the purpose of determining, in his sole discretion, whether the student shall be conditionally readmitted to Putnam Middle School:
    - i. The Student's regular attendance, good effort and passing grades in the alternative educational program; and
    - ii. The Student's compliance with the Board of Education Student Discipline Policy 5114 including the performance of any act or behavior that would lead to a suspension/expulsion or arrest.

- d) If the Superintendent determines that the student has complied with the two conditions for his probationary readmission, he may be permitted to enter Putnam Middle School and remain in attendance there beginning January 22, 2024, subject to his compliance with the following three conditions:
- i. Regular attendance, good effort and passing grades; and
  - ii. Compliance with the Putnam Board of Education Student Discipline Policy 5114 including the performance of any act or behavior that would lead to a suspension/expulsion or arrest.
  - iii. Regularly attend counseling.
- e) If the student does not comply with the above-referenced conditions, the Superintendent may reinstate the student's expulsion for the remainder of the expulsion period, through March 5, 2024 without the need for any further proceedings before the Board.
- 6) All parties to this Agreement request that this Agreement be presented to the Board for the Board's consideration, in lieu of the submission of any other evidence by the Superintendent and/or the student or his Parent, and they agree that this Agreement is sufficient for the Board to expel the student from school.
- 7) The Superintendent, the student, and the parent of the student understand that this Agreement is subject to the approval of the Board. In the event that the Board does not approve this Agreement, the Superintendent, the student, and the parent of the student agree that the expulsion hearing concerning the student shall be immediately convened. The Student and the parent of the student (also agree that the Board's consideration of this proposed Agreement will not disqualify any member of the Board from serving as a Board member in the evidentiary hearing, and they hereby waive any right to make such a claim in any proceeding in any forum.
- 8) The student and the parent of the student enter into this Agreement voluntarily and with a full understanding of the provisions of this Agreement.

#### 4. **ADJOURNMENT**

Mike Morrill made a motion to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Chad Neal and passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 5:28 PM.

Respectfully submitted,



Steven Rioux, Superintendent of Schools