THE SCHOOL BOARD OF ST. LUCIE COUNTY

SPECIAL MEETING – AUGUST 7, 2003

MINUTES

The School Board of St. Lucie County held a special meeting in the School Board Room on August 7, 2003 at approximately 5:07 p.m.

PRESENT: DR. JOHN CARVELLI, Chairman

Member Residing in District No. 3

MS. CAROL A. HILSON, Vice Chairman

Member Residing in District No. 2

MRS. KATHRYN HENSLEY

Member Residing in District No. 4

DR. JUDI MILLER

Member Residing in District No. 1

ABSENT: DR. SAMUEL S. GAINES

Member Residing in District No. 5

ALSO PRESENT: MR. MICHAEL LANNON, District Superintendent

MR. DANIEL B. HARRELL, School Board Attorney

HEARING DISPOSITION (S) – Expulsion

STUDENT WITHDRAWALS (3)

Chairman Carvelli called the meeting to order and Superintendent Lannon informed the Board that the following students had withdrawn from the St. Lucie County School District in lieu of expulsion. These students would have expulsion proceedings instituted if they attempted to re-enroll in any St. Lucie County school in the future:

Jontez Stevens (DOB/03-08-88), 8th grade, ACS (used to be EXCEL) Youth Services

Christopher Foxx (DOB/06-24-88), 9th grade, Fort Pierce Westwood High

Frank Fuller (DOB/08-22-86), 11th grade, ACS Youth Services (used to be EXCEL)

RECOMMENDED ORDER #1

Recommended Order #1 pertained to a15-year-old (DOB 03-26-87) 11th grade student at St. Lucie West Centennial High School who was charged with a violation of the Code of Student Conduct, Rule B, Level III - Battery of a Student. The principal recommended that the student be expelled for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year and the entire 2003-2004 school year. The hearing officer recommended that the student be expelled for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year and the entire 2003-2004 school year. The superintendent recommended that the Board expel the student for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year and the entire 2003-2004 school year and that the petition for expulsion be held in abeyance to allow the student to attend the first semester of the 2003-2004 school year at ACS Services (EXCEL). With successful completion of the program at ACS Services, the student may return to St. Lucie West Centennial High School for the second semester under a behavioral contract. The student, his father, and his attorney Mr. Mike Kessler, were present during the hearing and were given the opportunity to make a statement. Attorney David Miklas was present representing the Superintendent.

Action: There was a motion to hold the petition for expulsion

in abeyance pending placement or assignment to an

appropriate alternative program for the first semester, and

return to St. Lucie West Centennial High School for the

second semester of the 2003-2004 school year, on a

probationary basis under such terms and conditions as

the Superintendent determines appropriate. If the student

satisfactorily completes the 2003-2004 school year under

the program of studies determined appropriate for such

period, the petition for expulsion shall be deemed withdrawn

and denied; otherwise, the Superintendent may schedule

and notice the instant expulsion proceeding for further

action by the Board (Miller/Hensley/Carried 4-0).

RECOMMENDED ORDER #2

Recommended Order #2 pertained to a student who had already withdrawn from school. Consequently, there was no action necessary to be considered by the Board.

RECOMMENDED ORDER #3

Recommended Order #3 pertained to an 11-year-old (DOB/04-26-91) 6th grade student at Forest Grove Middle School who was charged with a violation of the Code of Student Conduct, Rule R, Level IV - Weapon. The student and her mother were present for the hearing and requested that the matter be continued to allow time to schedule another hearing before the hearing officer. No action was taken by the Board on this matter.

RECOMMENDED ORDER #4

Recommended Order #4 pertained to a 5-year-old (DOB/07-22-88) 8th grade student at Forest Grove Middle School who was charged with a violation of the Code of Student Conduct, Rule G, Level IV - Disorderly Conduct. The student and her mother and father were present during the hearing. During discussion, the superintendent determined that he wanted to look into the PACE program for the student. Consequently, the matter was continued.

RECOMMENDED ORDER #5

Recommended Order #5 pertained to a 4-year-old (DOB/08-10-88) 8th grade student at Southern Oaks Middle School who was charged with two violations of the Code of Student Conduct: 1) Rule D, Level IV – Battery of Employees and Volunteers, and 2) Rule G, Level IV – Disorderly Conduct. The principal recommended that the student be expelled for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year and the entire 2003-2004 school year. The hearing officer recommended that the student be expelled for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year and the entire 2003-2004 school year. The superintendent recommended that the Board expel the student for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year and the entire 2003-2004 school year and that appropriate ESE services continue to be provided during the period of expulsion. Neither the student nor a representative appeared for the hearing after having been notified of the hearing date, time, and place.

Action: There was a motion to expel the student from the regular

program of instruction of the St. Lucie County school system

for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year and

the entire 2003-2004 school year, subject to the continued

provision of appropriate special education and related services

(Hilson/Hensley/Carried 4-0).

RECOMMENDED ORDER #6

Recommended Order #6 pertained to a 13-year-old (DOB/08-16-90) 6th grade student at Forest Grove Middle School who was charged with a violation of the Code of Student Conduct, Rule G, Level IV - Disorderly Conduct. The principal recommended that the student be expelled for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year and the entire 2003-2004 school year. The hearing officer recommended that the student be expelled for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year and the entire 2003-2004 school year. The superintendent recommended that the Board expel the student for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year and the entire 2003-2004 school year and that appropriate ESE services continue to be provided according to the student’s IEP. Neither the student nor a representative appeared for the hearing after having been notified of the hearing date, time, and place. The hearing was scheduled for 5:55 p.m. The Board waited until 7:20 p.m. before proceeding with the hearing.

Action: There was a motion to expel the student from the regular

program of instruction of the St. Lucie County school system

for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year and the

entire 2003-2004 school year, subject to the continued

provision of special education and related services (Hensley/

Hilson/Carried 4-0).

RECOMMENDED ORDER #7

Recommended Order #7 pertained to a 17-year-old (DOB/06-05-85) 11th grade student at St. Lucie West Centennial High School who was charged with two violations of the Code of Student Conduct: 1) Rule H, Level IV - Drugs/Substance Abuse, and 2) Rule B, Level III - Battery of a Student.

school year and the entire 2003-2004 school. The principal recommended that the student be expelled for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year and the entire 2003-2004 school year. The hearing officer recommended that the student be expelled for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year and the entire 2003-2004 school year. The superintendent recommended that the Board expel the student for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year and the entire 2003-2004 school year. Neither the student nor a representative appeared for the hearing after having been notified of the hearing date, time, and place. The hearing was scheduled for 6:05 p.m. The Board waited until 7:35 p.m. before proceeding with the hearing.

Action: There was a motion to expel the student from the regular

program of instruction of the St. Lucie County school system

for the remainder of the 2002-2003 school year and the entire

2003-2004 school year (Miller/Hensley/Carried 4-0).

RECOMMENDED ORDER #8

Recommended Order #8 pertained to a 17-year-old (DOB/11-09-85) 11th grade student at Fort Pierce Westwood High who was charged with a violation of the Code of Student Conduct, Rule R, Level IV - Weapons. The student and his mother were present during the hearing. During a period of discussion, the student’s mother stated she had not known about the previous hearing before a hearing officer that was scheduled on May 29, 2003. The parent asked that this hearing be rescheduled and asked for a continuance of this matter until such hearing could be re-scheduled. There was no further action taken on this matter by the Board.

RECOMMENDED ORDER #9

Recommended Order #9 pertained to a 14-year-old (DOB/02-06-89) 8th grade student at Lincoln Park Academy who was charged with a violation of the Code of Student Conduct, Rule H, Level IV - Drugs/Substance Abuse. The student and his mother were present during the hearing at which time the possibility of a stipulated agreement was brought up. The student’s parent asked that the hearing be continued to allow sufficient time to meet with Mrs. Barbara Slaga to consider a stipulated agreement. There was no further action taken by the Board.

RECOMMENDED ORDER #10

Recommended Order #10 pertained to a student who had signed a Stipulated Findings of Fact, Conclusions of Law and Penalty, and Final Order. There was no need to continue with the hearing at this time.

RECOMMENDED ORDER #11

Recommended Order #11 pertained to a 16-year-old (DOB/08-01-87) 9th grade student at Fort Pierce Westwood High who was charged with a violation of the Code of Student Conduct, Rule G, Level IV - Disorderly Conduct. The student’s mother and stepfather appeared for the hearing, however, due to the severity of the charge and information provided about the student’s record, the Board asked that the hearing be continued until such time as the student could appear in person. This matter was continued and there was no further action required by the Board at this time.

Following disposition of all matters scheduled to come before the Board, Chairman Carvelli adjourned the special August 7, 2003 meeting at approximately 7:50 p.m.