

**MINUTES OF SPECIAL MEETING,  
BOARD OF EDUCATION, SCHOOL  
DISTRICT #225, COOK COUNTY,  
ILLINOIS, MAY 11, 2003**

A special meeting of the Board of Education, School District No. 225 was held on Sunday, May 11, 2003, at approximately 7:35 p.m. at Glenbrook South High School, 4000 W. Lake Avenue, Glenview, pursuant to due notice of all members and the public.

The president called the meeting to order. Upon calling of the roll, the following members answered present: Boron, Rogal, Shaer, Shein, Torf. Absent: Babb, Matsakis. Mr. Matsakis arrived at approximately 7:50 p.m. Also present: Dill-Varga, Freeman, Hales, Lacivita, Lanz, Riggle, Smith.

Dr. Hales welcomed the visitors to this special meeting. He acknowledged the strong emotions and opinions that exist for students, parents, and school employees regarding the incident from last Sunday and the impact on the school and community. He informed the audience that it was the policy for the Board to allow for public comment, but that this was not the forum to take questions from the press. He explained that this was a business meeting of the Board. Dr. Hales indicated that a news conference would be held at 1:00 p.m. at the District Office on Monday, May 12, 2003 and that a regularly scheduled Board meeting would be held that same evening in the Lyceum at Glenbrook South at 7:30 p.m.

He indicated that at this evening's special Board meeting the administration would be recommending policy changes to adjust Board procedures to allow for additional flexibility in dealing with student disciplinary matters.

Mrs. Rogal read a statement on behalf of the Board that expressed the Board's shock and outrage over the shameful acts committed by students who attend our school. She expressed sadness that the actions of a few had so negatively impacted the other nearly 2000 students in the school and the entire Northbrook community. She stated that the Board condemns the horrific incident which occurred in the Cook County Forest Preserve on Sunday, May 4, 2003. She stated that in addition to the numerous programs already in place in the school and community of Northbrook, the Board would pursue additional and alternative methods of intervention and various means to stem intolerable behaviors, beginning with Dr. Riggle's call to convene a community wide task force once the school's investigation was completed. She stated that the Board's support and respect for the entire Glenbrook North administration and staff, especially Dr. Riggle, its principal. She went on to say that the community was proud of Glenbrook North before this incident and remains proud of Glenbrook North. Mrs. Rogal said that now is the time for the community of Northbrook and Glenbrook North High School to start healing and move on.

Mrs. Rogal reminded the audience that this was a working Board meeting and that it was the policy of the Board to not respond to the comments and questions made by the public at the meeting.

Mrs. Rogal read a statement from absent Board member Mr. Babb who stated that he would need to recuse himself from Board discussions and decisions regarding policies, procedures, and discipline that may result in reference to the May 4, 2003 incident. He stated that he knew several of the students who were spectators at the event and could not be totally objective in the decisions the Board might have to render in this case.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING**

Motion by Mrs. Torf, seconded Mr. Shaer, to approve the agenda for this meeting.

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Boron, Rogal, Shaer, Shein, Torf

nay: none

Motion carried.

Mr. Matsakis arrived at approximately 7:50 p.m.

Mrs. Rogal recognized members of the audience who wished to address the Board. Rebecca Stern, student at Glenbrook North, spoke on behalf of the student leaders at Glenbrook North. She related that some leaders felt they had disappointed the school and community through their unfortunate choice to attend this event as observers. She acknowledged their embarrassment but wished to reiterate that Glenbrook North is a great high school. She related that members of the Senior Class Board the Student Association Executive Board were beginning to devise plans to unite the school. She acknowledged that even though no student leaders participated in the activities, they had a responsibility to be leaders.

Kim Parks, parent of a Glenbrook North student and alumna, expressed her disappointment in the school's lack of communication about the incident to the parents of its students. She hoped that in future the school would remedy this.

**DISCUSSION REGARDING THE SUSPENSION OF PROVISIONS OF BOARD POLICY: POLICY DEVELOPMENT (2040)**

Dr. Hales recommended that the Board in accordance with its policy on Policy Development, (2040), suspend the rules of Section H concerning policy adoption. He indicated that this section required the Board discuss a policy revision at one meeting and then adopt it at a subsequent meeting. He recommended this suspension so that the Board could adopt needed changes to its policies this evening. After discussion the Board took the following action.

**ACTION REGARDING THE SUSPENSION OF PROVISIONS OF BOARD POLICY: POLICY DEVELOPMENT (2040)**

Motion by Mr. Shaer, seconded by Mrs. Torf to approve the suspension of the rules of Section H in Board Policy: Policy Development (2040), in accordance with Section N of that same policy which allows the Board to suspend Section H.

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Boron, Matsakis, Rogal, Shaer, Shein, Torf,

nay: none

Motion carried.

Note: See attached agenda item #5

**DISCUSSION REGARDING REVISION OF BOARD POLICIES: STUDENT SUSPENSIONS (8120) AND MAJOR DISCIPLINARY PROBLEMS (8140)**

Dr. Hales asked the Board to consider revising Board policies: Student Suspensions (8120) and Major Disciplinary Problems (8140). He clarified that the revisions modified the procedures for processing suspensions and expulsions. Dr. Hales said that the state law allows the Board to appoint a hearing examiner to hear appeals, but Board policy needs to include specific language to allow for that.

After discussion the Board took the following action.

**ACTION TO REVISE BOARD POLICY AND PROCEDURES: STUDENT SUSPENSIONS (8120)**

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mr. Matsakis, to approve the revisions to Board policy 8120 by the addition of the following statement to Section D of the policy, "In extraordinary situations the Board may appoint a hearing officer to hear the case and render a written recommendation to the Board."

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Matsakis, Rogal, Shaer, Shein, Torf, Boron

nay: none

Motion carried.

Note: See attached agenda item #5

Dr. Hales recommended the addition of the same language to policy 8140, Section B for the same reasons. The Board then took the following action.

**ACTION TO REVISE BOARD POLICIES AND PROCEDURES: MAJOR DISCIPLINARY PROBLEMS, SECTION B (8140)**

Motion by Mrs. Torf, seconded by Mr. Boron, to approve the revision to Board policy Major Disciplinary Problems (8140) by the addition of the following statement to Section B of the Policy: "In extraordinary situations the Board may appoint a hearing officer to hear the case and render a written recommendation to the Board."

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Matsakis, Rogal, Shaer, Shein, Torf, Boron

nay: none

Motion carried.

Dr. Hales recommended the addition of the same language to policy 8140, Section C for the same reasons. The Board then took the following action.

**ACTION TO REVISE BOARD POLICIES AND PROCEDURES: MAJOR DISCIPLINARY PROBLEMS SECTION C (8140)**

Motion by Mr. Boron, seconded by Mr. Shein, to approve the revision to Board policy Major Disciplinary Problems (8140) by the addition of the following statement to Section C of the policy: "In extraordinary situations the Board may appoint a hearing officer to hear the case and render a written recommendation to the Board."

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Matsakis, Rogal, Shaer, Shein, Torf, Boron

nay: none

Motion carried.

Note: See agenda item #5.

Mrs. Rogal asked for a motion to go into closed session.

**MOTION TO MOVE INTO CLOSED SESSION**

Motion by Mr. Matsakis, seconded by Mr. Shaer, to move into closed session at approximately 8:30 p.m. to consider student disciplinary matters; and to consider litigation which has been filed and is pending or is probable or imminent (Sections 2 (c) (9) and (11) of the Open Meetings Act).

Upon calling of the roll:

aye: Rogal, Shaer, Shein, Torf, Boron, Matsakis

nay: none

Motion carried.

The Board returned to open session at approximately 9:30 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Mr. Matsakis, seconded by Mr. Boron, to adjourn the meeting at approximately 9:35 p.m.

Upon call for a vote on the motion, all present voted aye.\*

Motion carried.

\* Means Boron, Matsakis, Rogal, Shaer, Shein, and Torf all voted aye.

CERTIFIED TO BE CORRECT:

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PRESIDENT - BOARD OF EDUCATION

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SECRETARY - BOARD OF EDUCATION

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: May 12, 2003  
7:30 P.M. Glenbrook Admin. Bldg.  
1835 Landwehr Road  
Glenview, Illinois