

SHELDON COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT
SHELDON, IOWA

SPECIAL BOARD MEETING
DECEMBER 7, 2005

I. CALL TO ORDER

Board President Dan Van Gorp called the Special Meeting of the Sheldon Community School District Board of Education to order at 7:01 p.m. in the Sheldon High School Library. Present: Gary Ihnen, Kecia Hickman, Jay Matzke, Dan Van Gorp, Joe Mueting, Sherrie Zeutenhorst, Robin Spears, Bill Borchers, Tom Whorley, legal representative for the School District Administration, Steve Avery, legal counsel for the Board of Directors, Brittany Hunt and her parents, Dawn and Kenneth Hunt, Andrea Van Beek, legal counsel for Brittany Hunt and her parents, Susie Maass, Daniel Hunt, Faye Hunt, Kris Keene, Lisa Kochlmoos, Keni Stamer, Jered Matzke, Chelsie Rohrs, Harold Lee Stamer, Sharon Stamer, Ashley Griffin, Randy Plagman, Kelsey Plagman. Absent: Kathy Brock.

II. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Jay Matzke and seconded by Gary Ihnen to approve the agenda. Roll Call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye; Jay Matzke, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.

Dan Van Gorp turned the meeting over to Steve Avery.

III. STUDENT DISCIPLINE HEARING

Mr. Avery explained the purpose of the meeting, and asked the student, her parents and legal counsel if they wanted an open meeting. They said they wanted the meeting open. Mr. Avery said that the court reporter, Karen Hargens, has all people involved in the hearing, listed on record. Mr. Avery explained the procedure, and what was going to happen. Mr. Avery also said that this would be an informal hearing, conducted in a semi formal setting. Mr. Avery asked if the student, her parents and legal counsel wanted the deliberation in an Open or Executive Session, and Mr. Avery offered the option that the decision on the deliberation could be made before the deliberation begins.

The witnesses for the School District were Robin Spears, Joe Mueting and Sherrie Zeutenhorst. The witnesses for the other side were Brittany Hunt, Dawn Hunt. The court reporter swore all witnesses in.

Mr. Whorley explained the reasons for the recommendation to expel Brittany Hunt for 12 months.

The Administration presented Exhibits A-J for admission as evidence in the hearing. Mr. Avery asked if the Hunts or their counsel had any objections to these exhibits. Ms. Van Beek said there were no objections. The exhibits were admitted.

Mr. Whorley called Robin Spears to the stand, and questioned him.
Ms. Van Beek cross-examined Mr. Spears.

Mr. Whorley redirected questions to Mr. Spears.

Mr. Whorley called Joe Muetting to the stand, and questioned him.

Ms. Van Beek cross-examined Mr. Muetting.

Jay Matzke asked Mr. Muetting a couple of questions.

Ms. Van Beek asked Mr. Muetting more questions.

Mr. Whorley redirected questions to Mr. Muetting.

Mr. Whorley called Sherrie Zeutenhorst to the stand, and questioned her.

Jay Matzke asked Mrs. Zeutenhorst some questions.

Ms. Van Beek had no questions for Mrs. Zeutenhorst.

There were no further witnesses for the Administration.

At 8:50 p.m., Mr. Avery announced that there would be a short break.

At 8:57 p.m., Mr. Avery reconvened the meeting.

Ms. Van Beek called Dawn Hunt to the stand, and questioned her.

Mr. Whorley cross-examined Mrs. Hunt.

Ms. Van Beek redirected questions to Mrs. Hunt.

Jay Matzke had some questions for Mrs. Hunt.

Ms. Van Beek called Susie Maass to the stand. The court recorder swore Mrs. Maass in.

Ms. Van Beek questioned Mrs. Maass.

Ms. Van Beek called Brittney Hunt to the stand, and questioned her.

Mr. Whorley cross-examined Brittney.

Jay Matzke asked Brittney a couple of questions.

Ms. Van Beek presented four letters, which she wanted to have admitted as evidence.

Mr. Whorley had no objections to admitting the letters. The letters were admitted.

Mr. Whorley recalled Mrs. Zeutenhorst to the stand, and questioned her.

Ms. Van Beek recalled Dawn Hunt to the stand, and questioned her.

Mr. Whorley made his closing statements.

Ms. Van Beek made her closing statements.

Mr. Avery asked the Hunts, and their counsel, whether the Board's deliberations should be in open or executive session. The Hunts and their counsel left it up to the Board. The Board preferred an executive session.

At 10:12 p.m. Jay Matzke made and Kecia Hickman seconded the motion to go into closed session. Roll Call vote: Gary Ihnen, Aye; Kecia Hickman, Aye; Jay Matzke, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.

At 10:44 p.m. Jay Matzke made and Kecia Hickman seconded the motion to come out of closed session. Roll Call vote: Gary Ihnen, Aye; Kecia Hickman, Aye; Jay Matzke, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.

IV. ACTION ON STUDENT DISCIPLINE HEARING-STUDENT A – Jay Matzke made and Kecia Hickman seconded the motion to expel Brittany immediately for the remainder of the second quarter, and the 3rd quarter of the 2005-06 school year. Brittany can reapply for admission at the start of the 4th quarter starting on March 13, 2006. Roll Call vote: Gary Ihnen, Aye; Kecia Hickman, Aye; Jay Matzke, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.

V. ADJOURN

At 10:46 a.m. Jay Matzke made and Gary Ihnen seconded the motion to adjourn. Roll Call vote: Kecia Hickman, Aye; Gary Ihnen, Aye; Jay Matzke, Aye; Dan Van Gorp, Aye. Motion carried.