

STUDENT HEARING

GADSDEN COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD
MAX. D. WALKER ADMINISTRATION BUILDING
35 MARTIN LUTHER KING, JR. BOULEVARD
QUINCY, FLORIDA

March 9, 2023

6:00 P.M.

A hearing for student case #72-2223-0231 convened at 6:13 p.m.

The following Board members were present: Mr. Leroy McMillan, Chairman; Mrs. Karema D. Dudley; Mr. Steve Scott; Ms. Cathy S. Johnson; and Mr. Charlie D. Frost. Also present were Mr. Elijah Key, Superintendent and Secretary to the Board; Mrs. Deborah Minnis, Attorney for the Board; and others.

The proceedings were electronically recorded.

Mr. McMillan made the following announcement: "This is not a court of law. This is a School Board Hearing. All rules that normally apply to a court trial do not necessarily apply here. This hearing is closed to the public unless the parent waives her right." He stated that the grandmother (guardian) of student #72-2223-0231 has expressed the desire for due process as provided for under Florida Statutes 120.57 and 1001.42. He stated that pursuant to the grandmother's request for a hearing, she has the right to representation by counsel and the opportunity to present evidence and testimony as to why the School Board should not act favorably on the recommendation of expulsion of student #72-2223-0231. He stated that by law, expulsion hearings are exempt from the public meetings act; however the parents have the right to waive the exemption and have an open hearing pursuant to Section 286.001, F.S.

Mr. McMillan stated for the record that the grandmother of student #72-2223-0231 did not waive her right and the hearing was closed to the public.

Mr. McMillan stated that the hearing for student #72-2223-0231 was for fighting.

The grandmother of student #72-2223-0231 stated that the hearing was requested because she want student to have another chance to attend school.

The following witnesses were present for the hearing. 1) Major Willie Jackson, Principal of Carter Parramore Academy; 2) grandmother of student #72-2223-0231; 3) grandfather of student #72-2223-0231; 4) father of student #72-2223-0231; and 5) student #72-2223-0231.

Sworn testimony was given by the following witnesses: 1) Major Willie Jackson, Principal of Carter Parramore Academy; 2) grandmother of student #72-2223-0231; 3) grandfather of student #72-2223-0231; 4) father of student #72-2223-0231; and 5) student #72-2223-0231.

Mr. McMillan recessed the hearing at 7:02 p.m. for deliberation and reconvened at 7:23 p.m.

Mr. Key recommended that student #72-2223-0231 return to Carter Parramore Academy for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year and the 1st semester of the 2023–2024 school year. Student should enroll in the Civil Citation Program; have no cell phone on campus; continue counseling; and any involvement with major offenses will cause for immediate expulsion. Student should not be on any other campus, day or night, during this expulsion/alternative placement period except to transact official business. Student should not be on any school bus except the bus for the assigned school.

Mr. Charlie D. Frost made a motion to accept the Superintendent’s recommendation to return student #72-2223-0231 to Carter Parramore Academy for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year and the 1st semester of the 2023–2024 school year. Student should enroll in the Civil Citation Program; have no cell phone on campus; continue counseling; and any involvement with major offenses will cause for immediate expulsion. Student should not be on any other campus, day or night, during this expulsion/alternative placement period except to transact official business. Student should not be on any school bus except the bus for the assigned school. The motion was seconded by Mrs. Karema D. Dudley and carried with Mr. McMillan, Mr. Frost, Ms. Johnson and Mrs. Dudley voting “aye”. Mr. Scott voted “nay”.

The hearing adjourned at 7:30 p.m.