

Thursday, September 20, 2018

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE
BRIDGEPORT BOARD OF EDUCATION, held September
20, 2018, at Bridgeport City Hall, 45 Lyon Terrace,
Bridgeport, Connecticut

The meeting was called to order at 5:36 p.m.

Present were Chair John Weldon, Vice President Hernan Illingworth, Joseph Sokolovic, Ben Walker and Maria Pereira.

Supt. Aresta Johnson, Ed.D., was present.

Mr. Weldon noted the agenda item on possible termination of a teacher qualified for executive session. In response to a question, Dr. Johnson indicated the affected employee had been informed of the meeting.

Frank Chester, chief talent officer, said he spoke to Ms. Zdru this afternoon and she indicated she would not be here. He said she did not ask that the discussion be held in public.

Mr. Sokolovic moved *“to go to into executive session to discuss possible termination of a teacher.”* Invited to participated were board members, Dr. Johnson, Mr. Chester and Floyd Dugas of Berchem Moses.

The motion was seconded by Mr. Illingworth and unanimously approved.

The executive session began at 5:38 p.m.

The board reconvened in public session at 5:59 p.m.

Mr. Weldon said the first item on the agenda was discussed in executive session. The second agenda item was possible action concerning termination of a teacher.

Mr. Walker moved that *“the findings of fact of Hearing Officer M. Jackson Webber in the matter involving Darcie Zdru be and hereby adopted in toto by the board.”*

The motion was seconded by Mr. Sokolovic and unanimously approved.

Mr. Walker moved that *“the conclusion of the Hearing Officer M. Jackson Webber that due and sufficient cause exists to discipline Ms. Zdru be and is hereby adopted.”*

The motion was seconded by Mr. Illingworth and unanimously approved.

Mr. Walker moved that *“the recommendation of Hearing Officer M. Jackson Webber that Ms. Zdru be terminated in hereby adopted by the board; that the board further accepts the reasoning of Hearing Officer M. Jackson Webber as set forth in his decision dated September 4th, 2018; that the board attorney prepare and issue to the parties, for the board’s chair signature, a written decision incorporating the board’s motions as to the findings, conclusions, recommendations and reasons.”*

The motion was seconded by Mr. Illingworth and unanimously approved.

Mr. Walker moved “*these motions that we have just passed be effective as of today, which is September 20, 2018.*” The motion was seconded by Mr. Illingworth and unanimously approved.

Mr. Illingworth moved the meeting be adjourned. The motion was seconded by Ms. Pereira and unanimously approved.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:01 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

John McLeod

Approved by the board on October 22, 2018.