**NOTICE AND AGENDA OF REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING AND EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**OF THE GOVERNING BOARD OF**

 **FLAGSTAFF JUNIOR ACADEMY & CHILDREN’S HOUSE**

**NOTICE**

Pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.02, notice is hereby given to the general public that the Governing Board of Flagstaff Junior Academy & Children’s House will convene a meeting open to the public at the time, date and place indicated. Information regarding agenda items may be reviewed in the office of the Executive Director. The Board may vote to convene in Executive Session, which will not be open to the public, to discuss certain matters, as indicated on the agenda. These matters are marked by an asterisk (\*).The Governing Board of the Flagstaff Junior Academy & Children’s House may, by motion, recess into executive session to receive legal advice from the Board’s attorney(s) on any item contained in this agenda, pursuant to A.R.S. 38-431.03(A)(3), at any time during the meeting. The Governing Board may consider any item below in any order and at any time during the meeting. One or more members of the Governing Board may appear telephonically.

If any disabled person needs any type of accommodation, please notify Lori Langan at 774.6007 ext. 202 at least seventy-two (72) hours prior to the time scheduled for the meeting. Copies of the Board packet of information (except for any documents which are to be considered in an executive session) are available by contacting Lori Langan at 774.6007 ext. 202.

Tuesday, April 26th, 2018 4:00 PM at FJA Elementary School

306 W Cedar Avenue, Flagstaff, AZ 86001

**Minutes**

**I. Call To Order**

Dr. Eadens called the meeting to order at 4: 04p.m.

**II. Roll Call of Members**

Dr. Eadens took roll. Mr. Leest and Mr. Firth were present. Additionally, Mr. Drumm and Ms. Lanzetta were present.

One member of community present.

**III. Presentations/Information/Reports**

* + 1. **President’s Report** - The President will provide information to the Board regarding matters pertaining to the FJA Board.
1. N/A
	* 1. **Director’s Report -** The Executive Director will provide information to the Board.
			1. N/A
		2. **Business Manager’s Report -** The Business Manager will give an update regarding any FJA financial matters.
			+ 1. N/A

**IV.** **Call To The Public** (Comments regarding matters over which the Board has authority are welcome from the public at this time. A time limit of 3 minutes per person is required due to time constraints. The Board may not discuss or take action on matters raised during the call to the public that are not specifically identified on the agenda. The only action the Board may take as a result of public comment is limited to directing staff to study the matter or scheduling the matter for further consideration at a later Board meeting.)

N/A

**V.** **Consent Agenda** (All items listed hereunder are considered to be routine and will be enacted by one motion. There will be no separate discussion of these items unless a Board member so requests, in which event the item will be removed from the consent agenda and will be discussed separately.)

1. N/A

**VI. Old Business (**Action items are ready for the Board to take adoptive, approval, or other appropriate action on a matter scheduled for action. Items cannot be placed on the agenda after the public posting or advertisement is made.)

1. N/A

**VII. New Business (** Action items are ready for the Board to take adoptive, approval, or other appropriate action on a matter scheduled for action. Items cannot be placed on the agenda after the public posting or advertisement is made. No action during Executive Session.)

1. Executive Session: Discussion of Hearing Officer’s recommendation for Student Expulsion

Mr. Firth explained how executive session works, and it’s intention to protect the student’s privacy. Per parent’s request, this session will not go into executive session.

Dr. Eadens asked if everyone has access to Ps and Ps and looked at them, related to discipline. As well as access to Hearing Officer Decision, Letter to Parent from Executive Director, and Parent’s Appeal Letter. All confirmed they have the documents.

Dr. Eadens asked to hear from Gretchen Kies, the parent.:

She would like to appeal recommendation for expulsion. Yes, her daughter admitted to violating the two policies and was in an altercation with another student. The other student got suspended for two days. Policy clearly states that fighting will result in expulsion. Only her daughter will be expelled. She’s 13, in 7th grade, won’t be able to go to school. Parent stated that her child has been bullied for over one year. No disciplinary action. Parent stated that she has been harassed by FJA students (the parent) during school day, but nothing happened. Mr. Drumm brought up to all 7th/8th graders that they would be expelled if fighting. She came home saying I don’t want to go this school. The other student conducted disorderly conduct first, by taking her chips. Girl takes her chips, doesn’t give them back. My daughter slaps her. No injuries. Other girl pulls her hair. Now my daughter is expelled. I’ve spoken to other superintendents who are willing to take my daughter, because they wouldn’t treat their children this way. Asked for parent meeting with Mr. Drumm because this was bound to happen. Don’t see why my daughter is being expelled, when the other student is not.

The board then asked to hear from Mr. Drumm:

Executive Director, Mr. Drumm – As I stated in the hearing, with hearing officer, I interviewed the students involved in the altercation. Gretchen’s daughter admitted to striking the other student in the face. The student that was hit, also said she was struck in the face. The student who was hit, did admit to grabbing the other student’s hair after she was struck. They engaged in a tussle – wrestled each other – and it ended. My decision was to recommend to the board, that Gretchen’s daughter be expelled for violating school policy. She initiated altercation by striking other student in the face, with her hand. Under section 7.17, under student discipline, she clearly violated school policy by fighting. Per school policy, it is up to administration to decide on consequence. One option listed is to expel a student. Chose to expel student for two reasons – initiated the contact and clearly struck the other student in the face.

Other issues preceding this event, did not involve the student who was struck in the face. The student who was hit, was never involved in the bullying accusations. Mr. Drumm does not feel the bullying issues are relevant to this situation.

In summary, why decided to pursue expulsion is that at FJA, we talk about our PBIS program and the 4 expectations we have. One of which is safety. I am tasked by board to make sure school is safe.

Did meet with the parents of the five students who were brought to my attention, Ms. Lanzetta’s attention, and school counselor’s attention. Did meet with them all. I heard from students there were threats made. Met all together, to ensure student safety. Had meeting with all 7th/8th graders right around the same time – talked in general terms about bullying and reminded them bullying is not tolerated. And if there is any physical altercation or assault, one of the options is expulsion. I never pointed out any students, or called out anyone. Very general terms. Multiple warnings to all the students, including Gretchen’s daughter.

Dr. Eadens - Questions or comments?

Mr. Leest – for background – has there been precedence for previous expulsion for assault of this type in previous years. Mr. Drumm – in five years at FJA – only recommended handful of students for expulsion. One was physical assault. This is a policy we try to adhere to. Make all stakeholders aware that if you assault someone, there are serious consequences.

Mr. Firth – asked Gretchen – you raised concern that your daughter was not referred to counseling. Parent responded: Yes, why isn’t there a behavior plan, rather than expulsion.

Dr. Eadens asked do you use PBIS system. Mr. Drumm said yes.

Gretchen asked why aren’t there other levels – how are you using PBIS.

Mr. Drumm met with her daughter multiple times Ms. Lanzetta also met with the students involved. To provide guidance and strategies. School counselor met with your daughter at least once, and was present at the parent meeting as well. Those were all put in place to address the issue.

Also, communicated with all 7th/8th grade teachers – to be extra vigilant to any bullying issues that might occur in hallway, classroom, and recess and lunch.

Gretchen said taking chips was bullying. Mr. Drumm clarified that bullying is repeated, unwanted behavior, and the incident of taking chips does not constitute bullying. There is no evidence that this was a bullying behavior. Gretchen confirmed they are friends now.

Gretchen said if get slapped another way to handle it than pulling hair. Mr. Drumm agreed and said that is was handled and the other student was disciplined.

Mr. Firth – from reading hearing minutes – ongoing issue between your daughter and other students. Clarified that Gretchen was asking why counselor not referred after this issue. Not prior to.

Mr. Leest – sounds like there were clear interventions that you put in place to address parents, told students what would happen, and precedence before. I think your recommendation is in line.

Mr. Firth agreed.

Dr. Eadens – after hearing from Gretchen and Mr. Drumm – we are ready to vote.

Mr. Leest – last question – Mr. Drumm are you 100% on this decision? Looks like you’ve done everything you need to do. Want to check once more. Mr. Drumm confirmed it is.

Mr. Leest – recommend to expel students. All voted in favor.

Board approves student expulsion.

1. Approval or Denial of Student Expulsion.

 Board approves student expulsion.

**VIII.** **Adjournment**

Dr. Eadens adjourned the meeting at 4:32 p.m.