



Compass Middle Charter School Additional Board Meeting Agenda

September 13, 2021

I. **Welcome/Call To Order**

Bethany Amicone

Ms. Amicone called meeting to order 8:05 am.

II. **Roll Call**

Present- Bethany Amicone, Karen Frederick, Randy Barnes, Gabrielle Bell, Kate Wallace, Anita Fine - Principal, LeDarion Jones – Dean of Students/Behavior Interventionalist

Absent – Harry Williams

III. **Explanation for Additional Board Meeting**

Bethany Amicone

Ms. Amicone introduced everyone in the meeting and explained the process for public comments. Each person will be allotted 3 minutes to make their comment and after that time the board will convene to deliberate on the comments. Ms. Amicone explained that before the meeting the board members and all representatives from the student's side were emailed with witness statements of the incident in question, video of the incident, and the school's stance on the incident.

The school's viewpoint, stated in the email, from witness reports and investigation of the situation was that a student was running to get water and when he did he ran into the student that is being represented. The student represented then stated, "Touch me again!" The other student put his finger on her should and then the student represented grabbed his hair and started punching him.

IV. **Public Comment:** (Three Minute Limit Allowed Per Person)

- a. Kevin Rancy, father of student- Mr. Rancy stated that he watched the video and believes there wasn't anything to be seen that would cause his daughter's dismissal from the school.
- b. Kaneshia Streeter, mother of student- Ms. Streeter stated that she agreed with Mr. Rancy, the video was unclear, and she does not agree her student should be dismissed from Compass.

- c. Alaysia Miller, stepmother of student- Ms. Miller stated that she does not agree in the dismissal of the student due to the fact that the contract states that violation of the contract “may” cause dismissal from the program. Ms. Miller also stated that she did not believe the principal was placing the student’s academic success as a focus, and was instead concerned with the image it would portray to other students if a student that was involved in a fight returned on campus. She believes that because the student has not had any behavioral issues so far with Compass, she should be given another avenue.
- d. Monica Williams, godmother and representative of the student- Ms. Williams believes that Ms. Fine took an over extreme action in withdrawing the student. She went on to claim that the student had multiple unwelcome interactions with the other student involved in the fight and teachers failed to act as advocates for the student, leaving her to defend for herself. She claimed that the witness reports state that the student told the other student involved do not touch me again. She saw the student run into the portable and run back and into the student she is representing. Ms. Williams stated that she does not condone fighting and she had the student go through modules on anger management to help in future situations. She believes it is the teacher’s responsibility as they did not report the issues the student claims she told them about.

V. **Board Questions**

Bethany Amicone

Ms. Fredrick asked about the student reporting an issue with the other student involved in the meeting. Mr. Jones answered that no reports have been brought to administration about any bullying issues with the student.

Ms. Wallace wanted to question how quickly it was determined to withdraw the student. She wanted to know if there was a conversation with the student and if there was any remorse. Mr. Jones stated he brought her in the office to watch the video she stated to laugh. When asked why she said she couldn’t control herself. She did not show remorse and stated she was defending herself. As to how quickly it was determined to withdraw the student, any student that is involved in a fight at Compass is dismissed so when knew the determination when we looked at the fight of the video.

VI. **Board Deliberation**

Ms. Amicone presented the board with a vote on the dismissal of the student from Compass. Board members approving of the dismissal were Karen Fredrick, Randy Barnes, Bethany Amicone, and Kate Wallace
Board members opposed of the dismissal were Gabrielle Bell

VII. **Adjourn:**

Bethany Amicone adjourned the meeting at 9:10 am.

Board Term Limits:

Bethany Amicone, Board Chair-2022

Gabrielle Bell, Secretary/Treasurer-2024

Randy Barnes-2022

Karen Frederick-2023

Harry Williams-2023

Kate Wallace-2023

NEXT SCHEDULED BOARD MEETING-

October 18, 2021 @ 9:30 AM