



OFFICIAL MINUTES OF THE SCHOOL COMMITTEE EXECUTIVE SESSION

November 2, 2016

The Boston School Committee held an executive session at 5:30 p.m. on November 2, 2016 at the Bruce C. Bolling Municipal Building, 2300 Washington Street, room 3-43, Roxbury, MA 02119. For more information about any of the items listed below, please call the Boston School Committee Office at (617) 635-9014.

ATTENDANCE

School Committee Members Present: Chairperson Michael O’Neill; Vice Chairperson Dr. Hardin Coleman; Michael Loonto; Alexandra Oliver-Dávila; Jeri Robinson; and Dr. Miren Uriarte.

School Committee Member Absent: Regina Robinson.

DOCUMENTS PRESENTED

USE OF OC SPRAY POLICY – DRAFT

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSION

Superintendent Chang informed the Committee that he intends to draft a policy regarding the use of pepper (OC) spray. A 2007-2010 collective bargaining agreement between the district and the Boston School Police Patrolmen’s Association states that the district shall develop a policy regarding the use of pepper spray. The district later filed a grievance and lost. The union filed suit to enforce the contract. An arbitrator determined that the district must develop a policy. The Superintendent made it clear that he does not support the use of pepper spray by school police, and therefore he is not recommending authorizing its use. Several Committee members agreed and expressed support for his decision.

Committee members suggested that the Superintendent issue a Superintendent’s Circular on protocols related to the use of pepper spray, and draft a policy recommendation for School Committee approval. Committee members requested that language be included in both documents stating that the School Committee approval must be granted before the district can

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issue pepper spray. The Committee and Superintendent agreed to discuss the matter publicly at a future School Committee meeting.

ADJOURN

At approximately 6 p.m., the School Committee voted by unanimous consent to adjourn the executive session. The Committee returned to public session.

Attest:



Elizabeth A. Sullivan
Executive Secretary