

**TOWNSHIP HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT 211
Palatine, Illinois**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION
SPECIAL MEETING
December 2, 2015
7:30 p.m.
(Official)**

A special meeting of the Board of Education, Township High School District 211, Cook County, Illinois was held on December 2, 2015 at 7:30 p.m. at James B. Conant High School at 700 East Cougar Trail, Hoffman Estates, Illinois.

ROLL CALL

On a roll call, the following officers and members were:

Physically Present:

Will Hinshaw, Member
Anna Klimkowicz, Secretary and Member
Robert LeFevre, Vice President and Member
Lauanna Recker, Member
Mike Scharringhausen, Member
Mucia A. Burke, President and Member

Present By Other Means:

Peter R. Dombrowski, Member

Absent:

None

Also present were: Superintendent Daniel E. Cates; members of the District administrative staff; interested citizens; and members of the press.

Pledge of Allegiance

President Burke led the Board of Education and the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Citizens' Petitions and Appearances

President Burke made the following remarks:

“Thank you for coming this evening. This brings us to the portion of the meeting for citizens’ appearances. We have asked people to sign in to speak. If you have missed the opportunity to sign in and you would like to speak this evening, please see the woman who is waving her hand if you would like the opportunity to speak. I have the list of people who signed up to speak. As this is a large number of people who wish to speak, we will allow a period of three minutes for each speaker to address the Board. We are pleased to listen to your comments this evening. It is important that you know this is a public Board meeting and not a dialogue, so Board members will not be answering your questions or responding to your comments. We ask that you value the procedures and decorum of our meeting and be respectful of anyone speaking so they can be heard.

As we do have some items of business that need to be addressed this evening, we will take public comment until 9:00 p.m. I will call two names from the list each time. I ask the first person to come to the podium and the second to stand near the podium ready to speak next. As each person approaches the

podium, I will call the next person to be ready to speak. We have one gentleman here who will speak on behalf of a group of individuals who yield their time to him. That gentleman will be allowed 15 minutes to speak. All others will be limited to three minutes. We will provide you with a reminder when you have one minute remaining. Please state your name for the record and please limit your comments to three minutes. Thank you again for coming to the meeting.”

Charles Covington (alias name), Cary resident, addressed the Board regarding the government’s involvement over the transgender student’s rights to the use of the girls’ locker room and protecting all girls’ privacy.

Johannes Laun, Schaumburg resident, addressed the Board regarding the Office for Civil Rights (OCR) ruling against District 211 and the government’s involvement over the rights of the transgender student, all students’ rights, and the Boards’ vote involving the OCR ruling.

Frank Skorski, Palatine resident, addressed the Board thanking them for letting everyone come to speak to them and for their work and praising the Superintendent for his work involving the OCR ruling and regarding the government’s involvement over the transgender student’s rights, all students’ rights, the transgender student’s participation in girls’ sports teams, and the Board members’ vote on the OCR ruling.

Jill Palmer, Hoffman Estates resident, addressed the Board regarding the transgender student’s use of the girls’ bathroom, the sharing of information with parents by the school and the administration involving the transgender student’s use of the girls’ bathroom, and the use of privacy curtains in the girls’ locker room for the transgender student.

Tracey Salvatore, Schaumburg resident, addressed the Board regarding people’s signs at the November 12, 2015 Board meeting, parents’ comments at the meeting, students’ opinions involving the OCR ruling, the school environment for transgender students, alternative changing areas in locker rooms for any student who requests one, and the transgender student’s use of the girls’ locker room.

Sue Johnson, Palatine resident, addressed the Board commending Superintendent Daniel Cates for standing up for all students’ privacy rights and regarding the Board members’ vote on the OCR ruling, and the Alliance Defending Freedom’s (ADF’s) model policy regarding protecting privacy rights and safety for all students. She yielded her remaining time to speak to attorney Peter Breen.

Vicki Wilson, Palatine resident, addressed the Board regarding the D211 Parents for Privacy group, the community being left out of the conversation of the transgender student’s use of the girls’ bathroom and the privacy curtain for the transgender student in the girls’ locker room, the Board members not voting on the transgender issues in open session, the transgender student issues affecting funds for special needs and low-income students and causing legal liability for District 211, the Board members letting paid professionals make decisions, the power of Board members, the Board members’ vote on the OCR ruling, the federal government’s power over the transgender student’s rights, the ADF’s model policy regarding privacy rights and safety for all minor students, and her request that the Board make the OCR agreement available to citizens immediately after their vote on it.

Sara Schmidt, Des Plaines resident, addressed the Board regarding her support for Superintendent Cates and the ADF’s model policy regarding respecting all students’ privacy rights.

Jennifer Zold, Palatine resident, yielded her time to address the Board to attorney Peter Breen.

William Pugh, Warrenville resident, addressed the Board regarding the transgender student’s use of the girls’ locker room.

Deana Pugh, Warrenville resident, addressed the Board regarding the OCR ruling and girls' privacy rights.

Hanna Garst, Palatine resident, addressed the Board regarding the treatment of the transgender student, students' support for the transgender student, respecting the difference in all students, and the OCR ruling.

Teresa Saunders, Palatine resident, addressed the Board regarding the transgender student's use of the girls' locker room and the treatment of the transgender student.

James Pittman, Palatine resident, addressed the Board regarding judgment of other peoples' beliefs.

Debbie Sapyta, Elk Grove Village resident, addressed the Board regarding the OCR ruling, people not feeling hatred toward transgender people, and the Board's stand on the OCR ruling.

Xiaobin Liu, Hoffman Estates resident, addressed the Board regarding the transgender student's use of the girls' locker room, the 6,000 signatures collected by the Chinese parents' group to support District 211 against the OCR ruling, and a policy to protect students' rights.

Jessica Miller, Palatine resident, addressed the Board regarding the transgender student's use of the girls' locker room, the OCR ruling, protecting the rights of all students, students' opinions about the OCR ruling, and the Board's vote on the OCR ruling.

Jenny Hong, Palatine resident, addressed the Board regarding Title IX, the rights of all students, and the transgender student's use of a separate changing room.

Jeff Miller, Palatine resident, addressed the Board regarding the transgender student's use of the girls' locker room, the rights of all students, students' physical safety, the OCR ruling against District 211, the power of the OCR and the federal government, and the model policy regarding privacy rights for all students.

Beth Kalopisis, Hoffman Estates resident, addressed the Board regarding the transgender student's participation on a girls' sports team, access to the girls' locker room for the transgender student, privacy curtains in the girls' locker room for the student, and the OCR's ruling against District 211.

Jillian Rose Bernas, Schaumburg resident, addressed the Board regarding the OCR ruling against District 211, all students' rights, and a policy for District 211 for fairness to all students.

Teri Paulson, Hoffman Estates resident, addressed the Board regarding the morality of all students and of the transgender student and the Board members' vote on OCR ruling.

Bill Nix, Palatine resident, addressed the Board regarding the proposal for the transgender student to use privacy curtains in the girls' locker room.

Michelle Hauser, Hoffman Estates resident, addressed the Board regarding students' rights involving the transgender student's use of the girls' locker room.

Daniel Stanford, Elk Grove Village resident, addressed the Board thanking the Superintendent for holding his ground involving the OCR ruling, the communication to parents regarding the

transgender student, the Board members' vote involving the OCR agreement, and the adoption of a District 211 policy to protect all students' privacy.

Susan Dewitt, Palatine resident, addressed the Board regarding the OCR's position involving discrimination against transgender students, conditions associated with being transgender, the need for District 211 to help the student, the proposal for the transgender student to use the girls' locker room, and the OCR's ruling against District 211.

Forrest Skidmore, Palatine resident, addressed the Board regarding District 211's position involving the transgender student's use of the girls' locker room, the OCR ruling against the District 211 and it being precedent-setting for the nation, and the OCR's power.

Jennifer Soloway, Palatine High School student, addressed the Board regarding the transgender student's use of the girls' locker room and protecting all students' rights.

Lisa Moran, Palatine resident, addressed the Board thanking them for their work and regarding her support for the D211 Parents for Privacy organization, the federal government's power over the transgender student's rights, the Board's vote on the OCR agreement, and the ADF's model policy to protect all students' rights being placed on the Board meeting agenda.

Paul Luksch, Palatine resident, addressed the Board thanking all of the citizens who spoke at the Board meeting and regarding privacy for all students, transparency involving the Board, the Board's vote on the OCR agreement, and not having the OCR agreement available to citizens prior to the Board members' vote on it.

Mary Stupen, Schaumburg resident, addressed the Board regarding the separation for girls and boys in bathrooms and locker rooms and having a separate facility for transgender students who consider themselves the opposite sex.

John Hanrahan, Palatine resident, addressed the Board thanking them for their service and regarding the Board's position regarding the OCR ruling, the proposal for the transgender student to use the girls' locker room, the treatment of transgender students, and the ADF's model policy regarding privacy rights for all students.

Blair Farwell, Rolling Meadows resident, addressed the Board regarding a vocal minority imposing their will on the majority, District 211's position on the OCR's ruling, the ADF's model policy protecting all students' rights, and Board members' closed door meetings.

John Di Leo, Palatine resident, addressed the Board regarding the power of the Department of Education and the OCR involving the transgender student's rights and the Board's vote involving the OCR agreement.

Jake Lytle, William Fremd High School student, addressed the Board regarding history being made over the Board's vote involving the transgender student's use of the girls' locker room, how the Board would like to be remembered regarding protecting the rights of students who are different, and the Board members' vote on the OCR agreement.

Matt Serikaku, William Fremd High School student, addressed the Board regarding protecting students' privacy, all students' rights, the transgender student's rights involving the use of the girls' locker room, and the Board members' vote on the OCR agreement.

Jared Narter, William Fremd High School student, addressed the Board regarding discrimination of a transgender student, the Board members' vote on the OCR agreement, suicide rates of transgender people, and protecting all students' rights.

Chrissey Trilling-Ruices, Palatine resident, addressed the Board regarding the proposal involving the transgender student's use of the girls' locker room, singling out the transgender student, problems transgender students face, privacy stalls for any student who needs privacy, and the Board's vote regarding the OCR agreement.

Edward Corrigan, a representative from U.S. Representative Peter Roskam's office, addressed the board on behalf of Representative Roskam and he read a letter from him regarding the people who contacted his office involving the OCR ruling, the federal government's involvement over the transgender student's rights, District 211's protection of privacy, respecting dignity of all students, the federal government's power over local educators and elected officials, and reaching a fair outcome for all parties over the OCR ruling.

Anusha Thotakura, William Fremd High School student, addressed the Board regarding Board members as role models for students, transgender students' perspectives, transgender students' suicide rates, and having compassion toward the transgender student who is involved in the OCR ruling.

J. L. Moore, Schaumburg resident, addressed the Board thanking them for their service and regarding their decision involving the OCR agreement and what God would say about the OCR agreement.

Mary Jo Shepherd, Schaumburg resident, addressed the Board regarding the rights of all students, forcing the rights of one person's rights on all students, having students vote on the transgender student's use of the girls' locker room, and transgender students not being predators.

Tom Morrison, Illinois State Representative and Palatine resident, addressed the Board thanking them for listening to the community and regarding his standing with the D211 Parents for Privacy group. He yielded the remaining two-and-a-half minutes of his time to speak to Attorney Peter Breen.

Bryan Neal, Rolling Meadows resident, addressed the Board regarding the federal government's involvement over the transgender student's use of the girls' locker room, having District 211 forgo the millions of dollars of federal funding, and the legality of the OCR ruling.

Frank Annerino, Palatine resident, addressed the Board regarding the transgender student's use of the girls' locker room, all students' rights, the accommodations provided to the transgender student, the transgender student's participation in sports, students' morality, and the Board's decision involving the OCR agreement.

Carol Parisi, Palatine resident, addressed the Board regarding wanting to live in the best school district, wanting the best to be done for all students' rights, the federal government's involvement in the transgender student's use of the girls' locker room matter, and the Board members' vote involving the OCR agreement.

Peter Breen, Illinois State Representative and attorney, who was yielded seven-and-a-half extra minutes from citizens who were scheduled to speak, addressed the Board in his role as an attorney for the Thomas More Society regarding the federal government's involvement with District 211's transgender student's use of the girls' locker room, historical discrimination cases for colleges and the state of Indiana, Illinois Attorney General Lisa Madigan's restrictions involving not allowing citizens to

read the OCR agreement before the Board members' vote on it, and the ADF's model policy regarding privacy rights for all students.

Closed Session

Mrs. Klimkowicz made a motion, seconded by Mr. Scharringhausen, that the Board of Education enter closed session to discuss probable or imminent litigation against, affecting or on behalf of the public body 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (11); and matters pertaining to an individual student 5ILCS 120/2 (c) (10).

On which motion a roll call vote was held with the following results:

Aye: Will Hinshaw
Anna Klimkowicz
Robert LeFevre
Lauanna Recker
Mike Scharringhausen
Mucia Burke

Nay: Peter Dombrowski

The motion carried 6-1.

The Board of Education entered executive session at 9:35 p.m. and resumed its meeting on December 3, 2015 at 12:30 a.m.

Consideration of the Proposed Office for Civil Rights Resolution Agreement

Mrs. Burke read the following comments:

“After many weeks of intense discussions and negotiations, we now have a resolution agreement approved by the OCR for consideration by the Board of Education that would resolve the pending matter involving locker room access for a transgender student. The key components of the resolution agreement are the following:

- Based on the representation of the individual student who filed the OCR complaint that the student will change in private changing stations, the District agrees to provide the student with access to locker room facilities designated for the student's identified gender;
- Any student will have access to privacy accommodations in the locker room through a variety of individual options;
- This agreement pertains solely to this individual student and does not require a District-wide policy;
- The agreement makes no reference to the District violating any regulation or law and reiterates that the District categorically refutes the notion of any violation of law or form of discrimination.”

Mr. LeFevre made a motion, seconded by Mr. Scharringhausen, that the Board of Education approves the Office for Civil Rights resolution agreement described by Board President Burke and

authorizes Board President Burke to execute the resolution agreement on behalf of the Board of Education.

Prior to the vote, Mrs. Klimkowicz and Mrs. Burke thanked everyone for providing their perspectives and all the emails that have been received. After which, a roll call was held with the following results:

Aye: Mike Scharringhausen
Anna Klimkowicz
Robert LeFevre
Will Hinshaw
Mucia Burke

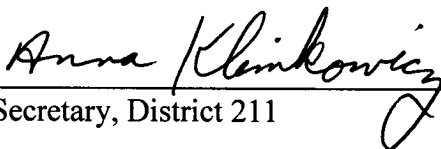
Nay: Lauanna Recker
Peter Dombrowski

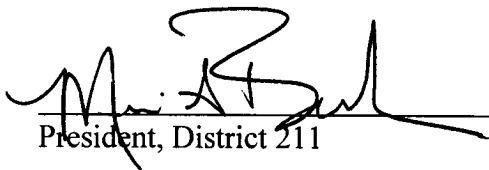
The motion carried 5-2.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Board of Education, President Burke thereupon declared the meeting adjourned at 12:37 a.m. on December 3, 2015.

Respectfully submitted,


Secretary, District 211


President, District 211