**SPENCER COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION**

**SPECIAL CALLED MEETING**

**Thursday, June 2, 2022 5:00 pm**

**Spencer County Board of Education Meeting Room**

**110 Reasor Avenue, Taylorsville KY**

**BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT**Dr. Lynn Shelburne

Ms. Sandy Clevenger

Mr. Jason Phelps

Mr. Timothy Truitt

**BOARD MEMBER ABSENT**

Ms. Pamela Slone

**OTHERS PRESENT**: Acting Superintendent Chuck Abell, Steve Rucker, Todd Russell, Jim Oliver, Jeff Rogers, Grant Chenoweth, Michele Barlow and others

**ORDER # 244**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Dr. Lynn Shelburne called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm

**ORDER # 245**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Mr. Timothy Truitt and seconded by Ms. Sandy Clevenger to enter into Executive Order under KRS 61.810(1)(c) & (f), for discussion which might lead to discipline or dismissal of an employee and to discuss status and defense strategy in pending litigation against the Board of Education.

Dr. Lynn Shelburne Yes

Ms. Sandy Clevenger Yes

Ms. Pamela Slone Absent

Mr. Jason Phelps Yes

Mr. Timothy Truitt Yes

**ORDER # 246**

**RETURN TO OPEN SESSION**

A motion was made by Mr. Jason Phelps and seconded by Mr. Timothy Truitt to return to open session.

Dr. Lynn Shelburne Yes

Ms. Sandy Clevenger Yes

Ms. Pamela Slone Absent

Mr. Jason Phelps Yes

Mr. Timothy Truitt Yes

**ORDER # 247**

**ACTION ITEM**

**Mr. Grant Chenoweth, Board Attorney read the following charges:**

*Charges for removal of Charles Adams from office, for submission to the Commissioner of Education for approval, pursuant to KRS 160.350(3):*

*Superintendent Adams violated the professional code of ethics for Kentucky school certified personnel, as adopted by the Education Professional Standards Board in 16 KAR 1:020, by failing to strive toward excellence, failing to recognize the importance of the pursuit of truth, failing to safeguard the freedom to teach, using institutional privileges for private gain, failing to exemplify behaviors which maintain the dignity and integrity of the profession, failing to accord just and equitable treatment to all members of the profession in the exercise of their professional rights and responsibilities, and by using coercive means or giving special treatment in order to influence professional decisions.*

*Specifically, the conduct of Superintendent Adams, as described by Hannah Jaggers in her lawsuit against the Board of Education, appears to be substantiated or corroborated by witness interviews and other evidence. While the Board does not find the conduct or comments to have been sexual in nature or to have created a sexually hostile work environment, the unwanted behavior directed at Ms. Jaggers failed to safeguard Ms. Jaggers’ freedom to teach. Mr. Adams’ frequent visits to Ms. Jaggers’ classroom and his use of her personal cell phone number to text her about matters unrelated to her employment duties reflected a utilization of institutional privilege for his personal benefit. Mr. Adams has expressly denied sending text messages to Ms. Jaggers which have been corroborated by screen shots from Ms. Jaggers’ cell phone, and this denial demonstrates a failure to recognize the importance of the pursuit of truth. Similarly, Mr. Adams justified the apparently excessive attention he gave to Ms. Jaggers by claiming that he shows extra attention to employees who are Spencer County natives or graduates from Spencer County High School. However, other employees have expressed that this is inconsistent with their experience or observation. This also demonstrates a failure to recognize the importance of the pursuit of truth. Mr. Adams has expressly indicated an intent to retaliate against one or more individuals who were involved in initially bringing Ms. Jaggers’ allegations to light, thereby using coercive means in order to influence professional decisions and/or demonstrating a failure to accord just and equitable treatment of these individuals in the exercise of their professional rights and responsibilities. Collectively, these behaviors show a failure to strive toward excellence and a failure to exemplify behaviors which maintain the dignity and integrity of the profession.*

*Additionally, these behaviors distract from the educational mission of the Spencer County Public Schools, interfere with the orderly and effective administration of the educational program of the District, and constitute a disruption of the educational process.*

A motion was made by Mr. Timothy Truitt and seconded by Mr. Jason Phelps to recommend the charges for removal of Charles Adam from office, for submission to the Commissioner of Education for approval, pursuant to KRS 160.350(3): as stated in the charges above.

Dr. Lynn Shelburne Yes

Ms. Sandy Clevenger Yes

Ms. Pamela Slone Absent

Mr. Jason Phelps Yes

Mr. Timothy Truitt Yes