

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by
Mrs. Adelord Cheverier,
Complainant

Report of Hearing Officer

against

Docket #FIC80-70

Town of Windsor; and Board of
Education of the Town of Windsor,
Respondents

June 23, 1980

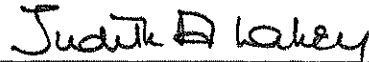
The above captioned matter was heard as a contested case on April 16, 1980, at which time the complainant and respondents appeared and presented testimony, exhibits and argument on the complaint.

After consideration of the entire record, the following facts are found:

1. The respondents are public agencies within the meaning of §1-18a(a), G.S.
2. By letter of complaint filed with this Commission on March 25, 1980, the complainant alleged that the respondent board of education had held meetings on March 17 and 18, 1980 without posting notice as required by the Freedom of Information Act.
3. On March 17, 1980, the respondent board held a special meeting to review the possible closing of certain school facilities.
4. Although notice of the meeting was submitted by the respondent board to the town clerk on March 14, 1980, the notice was not posted publicly as required by §1-21, G.S.
5. The March 17, 1980 meeting was well-attended and there was extensive discussion regarding possible school closings.
6. At its regularly scheduled meeting on March 18, 1980, the respondent board further discussed the matter of school closings, and voted to close the Deerfield School. Notice for this meeting was given by means of the list of regular meetings filed with the town clerk prior to the beginning of the year.
7. The complainant requested that the actions of the respondent board closing Deerfield School be declared null and void.
8. It is found that the actions of the respondent were taken at a properly noticed regular meeting and that an order declaring such actions null and void would be inappropriate.

The following order by the Commission is hereby recommended on the basis of the record concerning the above captioned complaint:

1. Henceforth, the respondent board of education shall comply with the requirements of §1-21, G.S. by publicly posting notice of its special meetings. In this regard, the board shall instruct the town clerk to post such notices where the public may have ready access to them, and take steps to ensure that these instructions are followed.



Commissioner Judith A. Lahey
as Hearing Officer

Approved by order of the Freedom of Information Commission on July 21, 1980.



Leslie Ann McGuire
Clerk of the Commission