

FREEDOM OF INFORMATION COMMISSION
OF THE STATE OF CONNECTICUT

In the Matter of a Complaint by
John W. Hyland and
The Hartford Courant

FINAL DECISION

Complainants

Docket #FIC 85-157

against

Hartford Board of Education

December 11, 1985

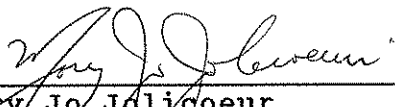
Respondent

The complaint in the above captioned matter concerned a June 18, 1985 meeting at which the public testified on a plan to rotate principals at six elementary schools. The complainants alleged that during a recess the Board met in closed session to discuss the rotation plan. The complainants requested that the maximum civil penalty be imposed against the Board.

A hearing was scheduled for October 8, 1985. The hearing was postponed at the parties' request for purposes of negotiation. By letter dated October 17, 1985, the parties submitted a stipulated agreement which is appended hereto and incorporated herein.

It is hereby recommended that the stipulated agreement be adopted as the order of the Commission in the above captioned complaint.

Approved by order of the Freedom of Information Commission at its regular meeting of December 11, 1985.



Mary Jo Jolicoeur
Clerk of the Commission

AGREEMENT

between

RESPONDENT HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

and

COMPLAINANTS JOHN W. HYLAND AND THE HARTFORD COURANT

WHEREAS, John W. Hyland and The Hartford Courant have filed a complaint with the Freedom of Information Commission denominated Docket No. FIC85-517, and

WHEREAS, the respondent Hartford Board of Education agrees that procedures required under the FOIA must be followed, and

WHEREAS, complainants and the respondent have agreed that the within agreement, duly ratified by the Hartford Board of Education and by the complainants, will satisfy all parties as a resolution of the outstanding docket and agree that the same shall be presented to the Freedom of Information Commission as a stipulation for decision to be entered by it upon this agreement.

NOW THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:

1. All meetings of the Hartford Board of Education, as "meeting" is defined in the State Freedom of Information Act as the same may be amended from time to time (hereinafter referred to as "FOIA"), must be open to the public; and no meeting may be held unless and until all conditions precedent to the holding of such a meeting under the FOIA have been met.

2. The Hartford Board of Education shall comply with the requirements of the FOIA.

3. The Hartford Board of Education may go into executive sessions, but only in conformity with the requirements of the FOIA. Executive sessions shall only be held for one or more of the specific reasons permitted for executive sessions by the FOIA. Minutes of executive sessions shall be made available by the Hartford Board of Education for public inspection within the number of days prescribed by the FOIA after the session has been held. Any adjournment and all other incidents of an executive session shall be governed by the requirements of the FOIA.

4. Any meetings of a quorum of Board of Education members to discuss business that is not the proper subject of an executive session shall be deemed to be meetings of the Hartford Board of Education within the meaning of the FOIA, and shall be subject to all relevant provisions of the FOIA governing such meetings.

5. The Hartford Board of Education agrees not to discuss business during recesses of regularly scheduled meetings.

Dated at Hartford, Connecticut this day of 1985.

HARTFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION

BY Donald V. Romanik
Donald V. Romanik
Assistant Corporation Counsel

JOHN W. HYLAND AND
THE HARTFORD COURANT

BY John W. Hyland
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