

THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

BEFORE

THE STATE SUPERINTENDENT OF PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

-----  
In the Matter of the Expulsion from  
the Milwaukee Public Schools of  
ARZELLIA M. [REDACTED],

OPINION AND  
FINAL ORDER

Appellant.  
-----

THE NATURE OF THE CASE

This is an appeal pursuant to sec. 120.13(1)(c), Stats., of a decision of respondent's Board of Education, hereinafter the Board, to permanently expel appellant from the schools of the respondent district. Now having fully reviewed all matters of record the State Superintendent makes the following:

FINDINGS OF FACT

On January 24, 1980, after a hearing the Board expelled appellant permanently from respondent's schools for engaging in a fight with another student on December 13, 1979 while on school premises and under the supervision of school authorities.

While appellant fought with the other student on the Hamilton High School premises, appellant [struck such other student with a straight razor causing the student's face to bleed.]

CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Appellant has engaged in conduct while at school and under the supervision of school authorities that was dangerous to the health and safety of others and disruptive of the educational environment.

That the expulsion of appellant on its merits was justified under sec. 120.13(1)(c), Stats.

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED, that the expulsion of appellant from the schools of respondent district be affirmed with conditions for reenrollment therein being those stated by Dr. Bennett at the expulsion hearing and set out in full in footnote 1 below.

Dated this 4<sup>th</sup> day of July, 1981.

Barbara Thompson  
Barbara Thompson  
State Superintendent

---

<sup>1</sup>Because of the wanton character of the attack by appellant on the other student in a school other than the one she attends, the State Superintendent affirms the expulsion of appellant and affirms those conditions applied by the Board for appellant's reenrollment and are restated from the transcript of the hearing as follows:

"Attorney Farris and Mrs. D [redacted], on behalf, by action of the Board, Arzellia has been expelled under Section 120.13(1) of the Wisconsin Statutes. Simply put, this means that Arzellia is not, no longer enjoys the privilege of a free public education in the Milwaukee Public Schools.

"That does not prevent you, Mrs. D [redacted], or someone on your behalf from appealing to the School Board--to the school system to have Arzellia re-enrolled in the Milwaukee Public School System. Under those circumstances, naturally you would understand the burden is on you or your representative to demonstrate to the satisfaction of the school system that Arzellia's conduct is of such a nature that we could reasonably expect her to conform to the reasonable rules and regulations of the school system. I would have Mr. Gaertner from our office, the Office of Pupil Personnel Services, be in contact with you regarding the specifics of this matter. We'll also extend what help we can with regard to other educational opportunities for Arzellia."