

BEFORE THE IMPARTIAL HEARING OFFICER

In the Matter of the Grievance of

BRIAN NETTERFIELD

Under the Grievance Procedure of

MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Case ID: 22.0113 / Case Type: IHO
Grievance No. FY25/159

DECISION NO. 41257

Appearances:

Will Kramer, Attorney, Pines Bach, LLP, 122 W. Washington Avenue, Suite 900, Madison, Wisconsin appearing on behalf of Brian Netterfield.

Gary Johnson, Attorney, 5225 W. Vliet Street, Milwaukee, Wisconsin appearing on behalf of Milwaukee Public Schools.

DECISION OF THE IMPARTIAL HEARING OFFICER

I was advised by the Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) that I had been selected to serve as the independent hearing officer regarding a three day suspension received by Brian Netterfield. I conducted a zoom hearing in the matter on November 19, 2025. At the conclusion of the proceedings, I advised the parties of my determination that MPS did not have just cause to suspend Netterfield. I further advised the parties that I would be issuing a short written decision confirming that determination.

Brian Netterfield credibly testified that he did not make any of the classroom remarks upon which MPS relied when determining that he should be suspended. The student written statements containing the alleged inappropriate remarks came from only a small portion of Netterfield's 6th grade class and could easily have been reflective of comments made by other students in the sometimes uncomfortable context of the fairly explicit sexual education curriculum.

Given the foregoing, I reject the three day suspension.

Issued at Madison, Wisconsin, this 19th day of November 2025.

WISCONSIN EMPLOYMENT RELATIONS COMMISSION

Peter G. Davis, Impartial Hearing Officer