

# Board of Education Highlights

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January 12, 2005 – Lincoln Elementary School

## **Good News:**

District 200 has received the highest ranking in Expansion Management Magazine's nationwide analysis of 2,800 school districts that offer high school programs. The ranking is based on college entrance exam scores, graduation rates, the community's financial commitment to public education, and the education and income levels of the community's adult population.

The study is conducted annually to help companies decide where to locate a new facility. It concludes that communities with the most successful districts spend more money on their schools, both in higher teacher salaries and per pupil costs. Those same districts also tend to have parents with higher levels of education than those in the lower performing districts.

District 200 is one of seven Illinois districts to earn the gold ranking out of 24 included in the study. Its overall ranking is at the 91<sup>st</sup> percentile, placing it and other gold ranked districts among the top 17 percent in the study, which included 34.5 million students.

## **The Board took the following action:**

- Posted the proposed 2005-06 calendar for public review and comment. The calendar is attached. Comments on the proposed calendar may be directed to the District Office at 630/682-2000 or [communications@cusd200.org](mailto:communications@cusd200.org).
- Extended its contract with Notification Technologies, Inc. (formerly PACE) for voice messaging services. The system allows emergency and scheduled messages to be delivered to the homes or offices of District 200 parents and staff. An email component of this service is expected to be operational later this year.
- Approved modifications to the Wheaton North High School building design. The changes create one additional science lab and convert two dry labs into fully equipped wet labs for physics and chemistry. In addition, the Board approved the relocation of special education and support personnel offices, a move that provides greater efficiencies for those services and expands the size of the new College/Career Resource Center. Several of the resource rooms planned in the renovation/construction are also being relocated to serve students better. These changes will cost about \$280,000 and are within the project budget.
- Adopted the renewed high school curriculum for counseling services, introduction to acting and technical theater. The counseling curriculum is the first standard program for both high schools and paves the way for the opening of the new college/career counseling centers.
- Posted revisions to new policies:

**Policy 2.220** includes a proposed change in the way public comment is considered, as well as other minor revisions due to changes in state law. The proposal calls for public comments related to agenda items to be heard at the beginning of the meeting and comments on other topics to be heard at the end of the meeting agenda.

**Policy 7.70** changes the compulsory school attendance requirement for children between the ages of 7 and 17 as required by changes in state law.

Comments on the proposed policies may be directed to [communications@cusd200.org](mailto:communications@cusd200.org) or to the School Service Center, 130 W. Park Ave., Wheaton.

- Approved the School Improvement Plans for each school and suggested a more detailed discussion of the plans at a future meeting.
- Approved the purchase of office furniture for department offices, resource rooms and other areas of new construction at Wheaton Warrenville South High School.

**Next Meeting:**

January 26 at Washington Elementary School

The meeting will include a discussion on how technology is used for instructional purposes.