

# Board of Education Highlights

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December 14, 2005 -- Hubble Middle School

## **Hubble Middle School Tour**

A tour of Hubble Middle School was conducted prior to the meeting to give Board Members and residents the opportunity to see some of the building conditions that led the Board to vote to replace the facility with a new school. The tour was conducted by school staff and Legat Architects, which has prepared an assessment of the building based on the requirements of the Illinois School Code and the District's building standards. The Board later discussed the future of Hubble, indicating it is waiting for confirmation from the City of Warrenville that a suitable site has been acquired for the new school. Warrenville has said it plans to donate a site for the new school, but until that happens the Board cannot proceed with plans to hold a referendum to generate money to build the school. Superintendent Gary Catalani responded to a number of Board questions about relocating Hubble in a power point presentation that is attached for your information.

## **Vision and Mission Statement**

The first draft of a new vision and mission statement was presented to the Board by members Barbara Intihar and Joann Coghil, who served on a writing committee to capture community expectations expressed in a community survey and in focus groups held throughout the community. The Board will continue discussing the statements on January 11, but is seeking feedback from the staff and community before it makes the statements official. The statement of vision and mission is attached, along with a set of belief statements that emerged as the most frequent responses in the survey and focus groups. Comments regarding the document may be directed to [communications@cusd200.org](mailto:communications@cusd200.org).

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

- Adopted the 2005 tax levy. The tax levy is the amount of money the District raises from property taxes and is used by the County Clerk to determine the District 200 tax rate within the limits allowed by the tax cap and authorized by voters. The District is seeking a 10.71 percent increase in the levy in an effort to collect all the property taxes available under the tax cap legislation. Typically, however, the District receives much less due to the tax cap's restrictions, which limit increases to 5 percent or the CPI, whichever is less, plus any new construction growth. Last year, for example, the District approved a 10.20 percent increase in its levy and actually got a 3.15 percent increase. Over the last eight years the District's actual levy increase has ranged from a high of 5.11 percent in 1997 to a low of 2.73 percent in 2002. The District is required to identify the amount of money it needs from property taxes by December, months before the assessed value of property in the District is known. The levy request, therefore, is made based on projected, not actual, increases in property values.

- Adopted the 2006-07 school calendar as proposed by the District Collaborative Team. The adopted calendar is attached.
- Accepted the 20004-05 audit prepared by William F. Gurrie & Co.
- Approved the three-year lease of 82 computers from American Capital for distribution to the front offices in all schools.
- Adopted replacement policy 6.15, School Choice, to meet the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act. The policy specifically requires school districts to offer choice to families who attend schools identified as needing improvement under the NCLB guidelines.
- Approved revisions and updates to the following high school courses: drivers education, oral interpretation, and junior/senior physical education.
- Posted for public review revisions and updates to the following high school courses: percussion ensemble/percussion studies, wind ensemble, junior varsity women's chorale/treble chorus, varsity women's chorale, men's chorale, French 2 & 3, German 2, Spanish 2 & 3, and communication studies. The curriculum may be reviewed on the District's web site at [www.cusd200.org](http://www.cusd200.org).
- Posted for public review proposed new textbooks for seventh and eighth grade social studies to supplement the newly adopted curriculum. The books will be on display in the School Service Center and in the Wheaton, Warrenville, Winfield and Carol Stream public libraries.
- Approved New Articles of Agreement for the DuPage/West Cook special education cooperative. The group [restructured the organization in order to make it more efficient and effective in delivering services](#).
- Approved the purchase of one new car for drivers education to replace a car damaged in a recent accident.

**Next Meeting:**

January 11 at Monroe Middle School