

# Board of Education Highlights

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November 12, 2008 - Whittier Elementary School

## **Recognitions and Achievements**

In salute to the nearly 6,000 school board members in the state of Illinois, November 15, 2008 is designated as School Board Members Day in Illinois. This is our opportunity to build community awareness and understanding about the crucial role an elected board of education assumes in a representative democracy. Our school children benefit every day from the dedication and commitment to public education demonstrated by these seven people. They all make personal sacrifices and spend countless unpaid hours tending to the board business. It is often a thankless job and they are too often criticized without public knowledge of all that went into the decisions they make. In an effort to show our appreciation for the work, dedication and leadership to our schools, tonight we honor and thank these seven people and school board members across the state of Illinois.

The City of Wheaton Proclaimed November 15, 2008 School Board Members Day.

In addition, Dr. Drury presented the School Board members with the following proclamation:

## *School Board Members Day Proclamation*

*WHEREAS, School board members are elected to sit in trust for their diverse communities, and in that capacity are charged with meeting the community's expectations and aspirations for the public education of their children; and*

*WHEREAS, School board members are entrusted with the guardianship and wise expenditure of scarce tax dollars; they are responsible for maintaining and preserving the buildings, grounds, and other areas of the school district that the community has put in their trust; and*

*WHEREAS, School board members are responsible for providing leadership that ensures a clear, shared vision of public education for their schools, that sets high standards for the education of all students, and requires the effective and efficient operation of their districts; and*

*WHEREAS, School board members adopt public policy to give voice to that leadership and employ a superintendent to administer board policy; they are also responsible for the regular monitoring of the district's performance and compliance with state policy; and*

*WHEREAS, School board members selflessly donate countless hours to public service with no compensation; and*

*WHEREAS, Employers are supportive of their employees who serve as school board members, generously lending support and time; employers give their employees the opportunity to better serve the needs of the school districts and citizens they represent through sometimes tremendous sacrifice to the employer; and*

*WHEREAS, Decisions made by school board members directly impact the quality of life in their communities, placing them at the front line of American democracy, therefore, be it*

*RESOLVED, BY COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200, that we proclaim November 15, 2008 as "School Board Members Day" as a way to honor those citizens who devote so much of their time and energy for the education of our children.*

### **Superintendent's Report**

November 11 was Veterans Day, and for several years the district has sought a waiver for student attendance in lieu of a school holiday. Schools across the district held activities and lessons to honor veterans and educate our students about the true meaning of Veterans Day. Staff is working to compile information and pictures of some of these activities and to showcase the events of the day across the district. This information will be shared by email with the Board and recipients of the Board Highlights, as well as placing it on the district website. The schools did an outstanding job of helping our students honor the men and women that have and are serving in the military.

On Friday, November 15, a steel beam will be delivered to the circle driveway of the current Hubble Middle School. This beam will be signed by sixth and seventh grade students from Hubble on Friday. It will then be taken to the site of the new Hubble and be installed in the back stage area of the auditorium where these first students at Hubble will be able to see their names as part of history.

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

**Approved** the posting of the proposed 2009-10 District calendar for a 30-day period of public review and comment (a copy of the proposed calendar is attached with this Highlights).

This proposed calendar was developed with the District Leadership Team, comprised of leaders from the District's bargaining units, the Superintendent, his cabinet, and principals from various schools.

The proposed 2009-10 calendar begins school during the fourth week of August 2009, with a teachers' in-service day on Monday, August 24 and classes for students beginning on Tuesday, August 25; traditionally, school has started during the third week of school.

This proposed calendar would result in classes ending in the second week of June on Monday, June 7, 2010. This calendar allows for the accommodation of potential weather make up days in June and still completing classes during the second week of June.

This calendar maintains the full week recess during Thanksgiving, two weeks for winter break, and a full week recess in spring.

However, this calendar poses an imbalance of 24 days for high school semesters if they were to end prior to the winter recess. In other words, if semester one were to end prior to the winter break, it would be 24 days shorter than second semester. This difference in instructional time between semesters makes it impractical and educationally unsound to continue this practice. Writing common final exams, maintaining the integrity of semester classes/credits, and providing comparable instructional opportunities for students in both semesters are critical and would be seriously compromised with such a disparity. Therefore, it is recommended that first semester would end, for all schools, on January 15, 2010. This would allow two full weeks of instruction, and final exams at the high schools, following the winter break.

**The District welcomes and encourages parent and community input with respect to this calendar proposal. Comments may be directed to: Dr. Robert Rammer, at [rhammer@cusd200.org](mailto:rhammer@cusd200.org)**

**Approved** revised policies 7.70, Student Attendance and Truancy; 7.50, School Admissions; and, 6.300, Graduation Requirements.

**Approved** to change the December 10, 2008 regular board meeting to December 17, 2008. The site of the meeting does not change from Edison Middle School.

### **Written Reports**

The Board received two written reports. The first was a review of the District's federal, state and private grant funding for the 2009 fiscal year. The other report reviewed the Library Learning Center Program and the goals that are part of the development of the program. Both of these reports are for informational purposes only.

### **Next Meeting:**

December 17, 2008, Edison Middle School

Proposed  
11/12/08

# Community Unit School District 200

## 2009-10 Student Calendar

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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### JULY

			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

No Student Attendance Days

### AUGUST

						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

5 Student Attendance Days

### SEPTEMBER

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	i	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

21 Student Attendance Days

### OCTOBER

				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	i	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

21 Student Attendance Days

### NOVEMBER

1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

16 Student Attendance Days

### DECEMBER

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

14 Student Attendance Days

### Important Calendar Dates

**August 24**  
Institute Day, No School, All Grades

**August 25**  
First Day of School for Grades 1-12,  
AM Attendance Only

**August 26**  
First Day of School for Preschool &  
Kindergarten, Regular Schedule All Grades

**September 7**  
Labor Day, No School

**September 18**  
In-service Day, AM Attendance Only for AM  
Preschool, AM Kindergarten & Grades 1-12

**October 12**  
Columbus Day, No School

**October 23**  
In-service Day, AM Attendance Only for PM  
Preschool, PM Kindergarten & Grades 1-12

**November 23, 24, 25, 26, & 27**  
Thanksgiving Recess, No School

**December 21 – Jan. 1**  
Winter Break, No School

**January 18**  
Martin Luther King Day, No School

**January 19**  
Teacher Work Day, No School, Sem Break

**February 5**  
In-service Day, AM Attendance Only for AM  
Preschool, AM Kindergarten & Grades 1-12

**February 15**  
President's Day, No School

**February 26**  
Institute Day, No School, All Grades

**March 29—April 2**  
Spring Break, No School

**April 23**  
In-service Day, AM Attendance Only for PM  
Pre-School, PM Kindergarten & Grades 1-12

**May 31**  
Memorial Day, No School

**June 4**  
Last Day of School, Preschool and  
Kindergarten

**June 7**  
Last Day of School, Grades 1-12, AM only

**June 8, 9, 10, 11, & 14**  
Emergency Days

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
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### JANUARY

						1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9	
10	11	12	13	14	15	16	
17	18	19	20	21	22	23	
24	25	26	27	28	29	30	
31							

18 Student Attendance Days

### FEBRUARY

		1	2	3	4	i	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	1	27	
28							

18 Student Attendance Days

### MARCH

		1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	
28	29	30	31				

20 Student Attendance Days

### APRIL

					1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	
18	19	20	21	22	i	24	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	

20 Student Attendance Days

### MAY

							1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8	
9	10	11	12	13	14	15	
16	17	18	19	20	21	22	
23	24	25	26	27	28	29	
30	31						

20 Student Attendance Days

### JUNE

		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	⊗	⊗	⊗	⊗	12
13	⊗	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

5 Student Attendance Days

Quarter Ends	Elementary Report Card Distribution
1 <sup>st</sup> Quarter 10/23/09	11/2/09
2 <sup>nd</sup> Quarter 1/15/10	1/22/10
3 <sup>rd</sup> Quarter 3/26/10	4/9/10
4 <sup>th</sup> Quarter 6/7/10	6/7/10
Middle School report cards are mailed quarterly. High School report cards are mailed after each semester.	
Legend	
I	Institute Day, no school
i	In-service Day, ½ day school
⊗	Emergency Day, no school unless make up day (s) required