

Board of Education Highlights

December 17, 2008 - Edison Middle School

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Drury reported that Wheaton North and Wheaton Warrenville South High Schools were ranked in the top 3% of high schools in the United States for 2008 by *U.S. News & World Report*.

Developed by School Educational Services, a K-12 educational data research business run by Standard & Poors, the study analyzed how high schools served all students, not only the ones planning to attend college.

Over 21,000 schools were examined from 48 states comparing data from the 2006-07 school year. "A three step process determined the best high schools. The first two steps ensured that the schools serve all their students well. For those schools that made it past the first two steps, a third step assessed the degree to which schools prepare students for college level work," (U.S. News & World Report, December 5, 2008).

The Board took the following action:

Approved the adoption of Policy 4.60, Purchases, as posted. The revision reflects changes in the State Code regarding school district thresholds on general bidding requirements.

Approved the 2009-10 District calendar. Students will start school on August 25, 2009 and finish on June 7, 2010 (attached). This calendar returns the end of the first semester and final exams for the high school to January.

Approved to post new Science Curriculum for grades K-8 as part of the ongoing review of curriculum and instruction.

Approved to post supplemental reading materials to support the new social studies curriculum that was adopted in January 2008. These materials will be available for public review and comment until January 18, 2009.

Adopted the 2008 Tax Levy as posted including the following resolution:

WHEREAS, the Board of Education of Wheaton Warrenville Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, has determined the amount of money, exclusive of election costs and bond principal and interest levies, that is necessary to be raised by taxation for the year 2008; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education disclosed at a public meeting its intention to adopt a levy; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education provided notice of its intent to adopt a levy.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT AND IT IS HEREBY RESOLVED by the Board of Education of Wheaton Warrenville Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, as follows:

1. That there shall be and there is hereby levied by the Board levies for the year 2008 upon which all sums are hereby declared to be required for the next ensuing year:

Amount levied for Educational purposes	\$ 90,000,000
Amount levied for O&M purposes	\$ 12,000,000
Amount levied for Transportation purposes	\$ 3,500,000
Amount levied for Tort Immunity purposes	\$ 1,000,000
Amount levied for Social Security purposes	\$ 2,000,000
Amount levied for IMRF purposes	\$ 2,000,000
Amount levied for Working Cash purposes	\$ 1,000,000
Amount levied for Life Safety purposes	\$ 0
Amount levied for Special Education purposes	\$ 750,000
Amount levied for Leasing purposes	\$ 0
AGGREGATE LEVY	\$ 112,250,000

2. That the sums set forth above shall be incorporated into the Certificate of Tax Levy for the year 2008.

Approved a contract with AT&T to expand the internet bandwidth within the District by installing fiber optic connects between each school and to the internet.

In the Technology Assessment delivered by Justified Technology last fall, the analogy of two-lane country roads to the Internet super highway was made to compare the District's connections to the schools. The assessment recommended a possible two-stage implementation of upgraded links for the schools and to the Internet, culminating with fiber optics run to every building. After lengthy negotiations with several vendors, including AT&T, the District was able to implement this plan for completion by next August. This expanded technology will allow students and staff faster and more efficient access to instructional resources. In addition, it will allow for improved curricular development options for staff. The Federal E-Rate program should allow the District to recoup up to 40% of the annual costs.

Ratified a one-year contract extension with the WWEA for 2009-10. The only change in the contract relates to salaries paid in the contract's final year. The extension increases the teachers' base salary by 1.6% over the current rate. The overall cost of the contract increases 4.0% because of anticipated teacher movement within the salary schedule based on years of service.

Written Reports

The Board received a written report from the exploratory committees that are investigating the implementation of an all day kindergarten program in District 200. A recommendation will come to the Board at the February 11, 2009 meeting.

Next Meeting:

January 14, Lincoln Elementary School