

**MINUTES**  
**REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**  
**COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200**  
**October 22, 2003**

The second regular meeting of the month of October of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, was called to order at Sandburg Elementary School, 1345 Jewell Road, Wheaton, IL, by Board Vice President Rosemary Swanson, on Wednesday, October 22, 2003, at 7:30 PM.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

Board Members:     Andrew Johnson (by phone)  
                          Rosemary Swanson  
                          Barbara Intihar  
                          Ken Knicker  
                          Marie C. Slater  
                          John Bomher  
                          Bob Davis

Also in Attendance:  Dr. Gary T. Catalani  
                          Dr. Bev Becker  
                          Dr. Lori Belha  
                          Mr. Bill Farley  
                          Mr. John Sluis  
                          Dr. Margo Sorrick

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Sandburg student Karli Togami led the Board and community in the Pledge of Allegiance. The Sandburg fourth and fifth grade choir sang the National Anthem.

**COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE HOST SCHOOL**

Mr. Aaron Bacon, Principal of Sandburg Elementary School, welcomed the Board, Administrators and community members to Sandburg School. Mr. Bacon thanked the Board and community for the improvements at Sandburg School as a result of the successful referendum. Mr. Bacon acknowledged his staff and stated that he believes Sandburg is a great school because they are "the right people on the right bus". Mr. Bacon read a Character Counts statement and the fourth and fifth grade choir sang a Character Counts song.

**MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA**

Dr. Catalani stated that in the Board's folders at their place at the table was a replacement report for item 9 regarding insurance and revised minutes.

**RECOGNITIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

This is National Character Education Week. Vice President Swanson stated that it is appropriate that the Board meeting was held at Sandburg. Sandburg has been very active in character

education and that Mr. Bacon has recently been elected as the Vice President of the Community Task Force.

Washington Mutual Bank sponsored an activity at Grant Park on October 18 to honor teachers in an American Idol type contest where teachers from the Chicago land area entered a talent contest. The event was called the Teacher Palooza and one of the finalists was Jennifer Sillitti, a teacher at Longfellow School.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

## **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Catalani reported the following:

- The Hubble information meetings will be held on Thursday, October 23 at Hubble, Monday, October 27 at Bower and Wednesday, October 29 at Wiesbrook. All of the meetings will begin at 7:00 PM
- The state school report cards are late in arriving from the state, but we expect to receive them any day. They will come to the district in an electronic format and will be posted on the district web page instead of sending a paper copy to each family. Those who do not have access to a computer or wish to have a copy of the report card may call their school or the District office after November 1.
- Hubble Middle school Principal Beth Sullivan piloted our new voice messaging system last night to remind parents of the upcoming meetings on the future of Hubble Middle School. Mrs. Sullivan reported positive feedback from her parent community and said the process of recording and sending the message was hassle free. About an hour or so following the delivery of the announcement at 7PM, Mrs. Sullivan received an email detailing how many calls were completed either live or to voice mail and how many numbers were considered incorrect. The provider gave us this trial message at no charge so we could test and evaluate the system.
- In 1991, Sandburg Elementary School was the first school in DuPage County to earn the Earth Day flag through the DuPage County Environmental Education Program. Sandburg just received its second flag for the school's work in recycling and environmental education.

## **REPORTS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approval of Gifts to Whittier School – Recommend the acceptance of the gifts of 300 Scholastic Books from Jewel Foods and a coffee pot and bean grinder from BP- Wild Bean Café as presented.
2. Approval of Donation to WNHS – Recommend the acceptance of the gifts of an Olympic weightlifting set, a 1986 Chevrolet El Camino and a 6 hour bus charter as presented.
3. Approval of Donation to Hubble Middle School – Recommend the acceptance of a gift of \$1000 for a 7<sup>th</sup> grade field trip as presented.
4. Approval to Apply for a Regional Office of Education Building Permit for the Site Plumbing & Excavation Work at WNHS & WWSHS – Recommend the approval to apply for a building permit for the site excavation and site utility work at WNHS and WWSHS from the Regional Office of Education as presented.

5. Approval to Post Music Curriculum – Recommend the approval to post the music curriculum for 30 days for public review at the Wheaton, Warrenville, Winfield and Carol Stream libraries, both of the high schools and the SSC as presented.
6. Approval of Minutes – October 8 Open - Recommend the approval of the minutes as presented.
7. Approval of Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports – Recommend the approval of the Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports as presented.

## **MOTION**

Member Intihar moved, Member Slater seconded to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### Item 8 – Approval of Site Plumbing & Excavation Bids for WNHS & WWSHS

The construction work for the additions and renovations to the high schools require preliminary site excavation and site utility work for both high schools to permit a spring start for actual building addition construction.

At WWSHS, a two story classroom foundation pad will be constructed, electrical and plumbing utilities will be relocated and a storm water storage basin will be constructed at the north end of the site. At WNHS, a water supply pipe will be reconstructed around the building, the storm water basin will be reconstructed and new parking areas and drives will be constructed at the north side of the site. All of these activities are needed to permit the start of the additions in April of 2004.

Bids were prepared and received on October 9, 2003. Four bids were received for excavation, 5 bids for paving, 1 bid for landscape work and 4 bids for electrical work.

It is recommended that the Board of Education award the bids for mass excavation and site utilities to DuPage Topsoil, including alternates 1 and 2. It is also recommended that the bid for asphalt paving and site concrete be awarded to Chicagoland Paving and include alternate 1 and 2. It is further recommended that the bid for site landscaping be awarded to O'Donavon Landscaping. It is recommended that the bid for site electrical be awarded to Elmhurst Electric at WNHS and to Cattaneo Electric for WWSHS.

## **MOTION**

Member Davis moved, Member Intihar seconded to award the bids for mass excavation and site utilities to DuPage Topsoil, including alternates 1 and 2; that the bid for asphalt paving and site concrete be awarded to Chicagoland Paving and include alternate 1 and 2; recommended that the bid for site landscaping be awarded to O'Donavon Landscaping; and that the bid for site electrical be awarded to Elmhurst Electric at WNHS and to Cattaneo Electric for WWSHS. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

### Item 9 – Approval of Property Casualty & Liability Insurance

The Board of Education annually reviews and approves the Property, Casualty and Liability Insurance package for the District. The renewal term is for the period of November 1, 2003 to October 31, 2004. Currently, the district works with Arthur J. Gallagher for placement of our insurance coverage.

We are completing our fourth year with the current carrier, Indiana Insurance. The total adjusted package cost last year with this carrier was \$326,736. A renewal package has been provided from A.J. Gallagher that reflects an increase of 9% over the expiring adjusted costs. While this is an increase to the current coverage, it represents a smaller increase than prior year increases. The cost of the renewed policy is \$356,101. It is recommended that the Board of Education award the Property, Casualty and liability Insurance to Indiana Insurance Company for the term of November 1, 2003 to October 31, 2004.

### **MOTION**

Member Slater moved, Member Knicker seconded to approve the renewal of the Property, Casualty and Liability Insurance policy with Indiana Insurance in the amount of \$356,101. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

### Item 10 – Approval to Post Tentative Levy

The school code empowers the Board of Education to levy taxes to support the public school system. This is an annual process. Not less than 20 days before the adoption of its levy resolution, the Board must estimate and announce the amount of money that will be necessary to be raised by taxation. If the tentative levy exceeds 105% of the previous year's aggregate extension a public notice and hearing are needed before the official levy is adopted. The proposed levy increase is 9.08% and it is anticipated that as in previous years, the tax cap will significantly reduce the actual extension. The tax cap will limit tax growth by the rate of inflation (2.4%), plus any new construction growth in the district. Given the nominal increase in rate of inflation as well as lower new construction, it is recommended that the Board make every effort to access all funds available under the tax cap. The proposed 2003 tax levy increase (excluding debt services) is greater than the 105% of the previous year extension, therefore, the Board of Education must conduct a public hearing on the tax levy at the November 12, 2003 Board Meeting at Lincoln School. The levy will be adopted at the December 10, 2003 meeting. The hearing will be posted in the local newspaper on October 29 and November 5.

There was a discussion of the reasoning for setting the levy higher than the expected amount and how the amount is calculated.

### **MOTION**

Member Davis moved, Member Intihar seconded to announce the recommended tentative levy as outlined and set the levy hearing date and time for November 12, 2003 at Lincoln Elementary School at 7:30 PM. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

### **DISCUSSION ITEM**

#### Item 11 – Group 1 High School Curriculum

This curriculum was posted on September 24 for public review and comment.

There was a discussion of the high school curriculum.

### **ORAL REPORT**

#### Item 12 – ISAT/PSAE Report

Dr. Sorrick presented information on the district's ISAT/PSAE test results and the impact of the No Child Left Behind Act. There was a discussion about the test results, what they mean to our district and what the staff will be doing with the data.

### **REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Member. Knicker reported that he attended the 50th Anniversary Dinner at Hawthorne School. The event was very rewarding and long time PE teacher; Bernie Hurley was present when the staff dedicated the Gym/Multi-Purpose Room to Coach Hurley.

Member Slater reported that LEND is going to be conducting a study of the regional cost of living expenses as they look for different ways to fund education in Illinois. LEND is wondering if District 200 would be willing to put up about \$250 to help defray the costs of the study. Board members were in agreement to support this study.

Member Davis reported that he recently attended a Chamber of Commerce luncheon. Representative Hultgren and Senator Roskam were both present at the luncheon and were asked the outlook for a restoration in funding and they both said they do not expect it to be soon.

The Board will select a representative for the IASB Conference in November. Board members were asked to submit their list of resolutions that are problematic for them to Dr. Catalani and this topic will be on the Board agenda for November 12.

The Board discussed a desire to organize a Board Retreat to evaluate how they are working together as a board.

Member Swanson reported that she attended the Community Character meeting. The group is getting very organized with officers and becoming a non-profit organization. The data from the recent survey was presented and the group will be working to establish community wide goals. They would like to present a review of the survey to the Board of Education and what actions will be taken as a result of the survey in terms of community character education.

### **TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION/ACTION**

1. Moving District 200 to higher levels of Greatness
2. Select & begin implementation of best long-term use of Hubble
  - Town meetings have been scheduled at Hubble, Bower, and Wiesbrook schools to discuss options for the long-term use of Hubble. These meetings will gather community input and after the meetings are finished, a report will be brought to the Board for a decision.
3. Develop a long-term financial plan that leads to financial predictability & stability
  - Staff is working on the budget report that will be based on needs. A task force will be formed and start meeting to compare the needs based budget to the program driven budget so that that information can be reported back to the Board.
  - There was a discussion of the previous meetings held with Board members, staff and state legislators to discuss the funding of education and the possibility of repeating those meetings after the first of the year.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Regular Meeting – November 12 - Lincoln Elementary School
- Hubble Information Meetings – October 23 at Hubble, October 27 at Bower, October 29 at Wiesbrook, 7:00 PM

## MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Intihar moved, Member Knicker seconded to suspend the rules and adjourn the meeting to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing student discipline and personnel issues. Upon a voice call vote being taken, all were in favor. **The motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 10:20 PM

There will be action following the Closed Session.

## MOTION

Member Slater moved, Member Bohmer seconded to reinstate the rules and reconvene in Open Session. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.** The meeting was reconvened at 11:15 PM.

## MOTION

Member Davis moved, Member Knicker seconded to uphold the suspension of student S2003-04-01. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, Nay 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

## DISCUSSION

The Board discussed the Hubble options and scheduled presentations.

## MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Intihar moved, Member Slater seconded to adjourn the meeting. Upon a voice call vote being taken, all were in favor and **the motion carried.** The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 PM.

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**Ken Knicker, Secretary**

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**Andrew Johnson, President**