

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
November 12, 2008

The first regular meeting of the month of November of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, was called to order at Whittier Elementary School, 218 W. Park Avenue, Wheaton, IL, by Board Vice President Rosemary Swanson, on Wednesday, November 12, 2008, at 7:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

Board Members: Andrew Johnson (arrived at 8:08 PM)
 Ken Knicker
 Marie Slater
 Joann Coghill
 Barbara Intihar
 Rosemary Swanson
 John Bomher

Also in Attendance: Dr. Richard W. Drury
 Dr. Lori Belha
 Mr. Bill Farley
 Mrs. Linda Knicker
 Dr. Robert Rammer
 Dr. Margo Sorrick

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Joanne Hall led the Board and community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION

Member Intihar moved, Member Slater seconded to suspend the rules and open the Public Hearing. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC

Speaker	Mark Stern
Topic	The need to look at salaries to balance the budget

Mr. Farley stated that the district has to work under the tax cap rules. The levy is tied to the CPI, which is about 4.1%. The district is asking for access to what is allowable by law.

MOTION

Member Intihar moved, Member Slater seconded to reinstate the rules and close the Public Hearing. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

COMMUNICATION WITH THE HOST SCHOOL

Mrs. Joanne Hall, Principal of Whittier Elementary School, welcomed the Board of Education, administration and community to the school. In support of the Board belief statement that “successful schools result when a partnership exists between the school, parents and the community”, Whittier school hosted a Veteran’s Day program. Students spoke about the activities and a video of the celebration was shown. Mrs. Hall thanked the Board of Education for their decision to have school on Veteran’s Day and teach the students about the meaning of the day. Mrs. Hall stated that this is her favorite day of the school year.

Member Swanson stated that she attended activities at Emerson and Edison and enjoyed the great experiences at both. Member Swanson believes that the district has done the right thing to make sure students understand what the gift of freedom really means.

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

RECOGNITIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

School Board Members’ Day – November 15, 2008

Dr. Drury reported that 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. City of Wheaton Mayor Gresk has signed a proclamation declaring November 15, 2008 as School Board Members Day in Wheaton. Schools across the district have signs honoring our Board members on their school marquees. Dr. Drury presented each Board member with a certificate of thanks, a framed copy of the proclamation from the district, and a copy of the proclamation from Mayor Gresk.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items

None

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

The Superintendent reported the following:

- On Saturday, October 25, the District 200 Social Workers hosted the 5th Annual parent University at Hubble Middle School. The speaker was Char Wenz and she spoke to the 77 attendees on the topic “I love you and the answer is NO!” Following the opening session, parents were able to choose from six relevant parenting topics that were presented in a seminar format. Thanks to Social Work Department Chair Donna Kozica and her colleagues for this great opportunity for parents.

- This is National School Psychologist Week and we would like to recognize the professional and valuable work that each of our school psychologists bring to our students, staff and parents in District 200. Thanks to Joe Rickelman, the Department Chair of School Psychologists, for his leadership over the past 23 years as Department Chair and 29 years as a school psychologist in District 200.
- This Friday, a large beam for the new Hubble building will be delivered to the north side of the circle drive at the current Hubble School. Students from the 6th and 7th grades will have the opportunity to sign the beam before it is delivered back to the construction site and put into the new building.
- Forty percent of all schools in Illinois now attend school on Veteran's Day. Dr. Rammer is putting together information and pictures to demonstrate how some of our schools celebrated that day. This information will be emailed to Board members, staff and everyone that is signed up to receive email copies of the Board Highlights. It will also be available on the district web site.
- Board members have been given a copy of a report from the Homework Committee. This report is in the green folders at each Board member's place at the table.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION CONSENT AGENDA

1. Appointment of Election Officials – Recommend the appointment of Bill Farley, Janine Sillitti and Mary Lou Sender to act on the part of the Board Secretary in matters related to the nominating petitions and objectives for the Board of Education Election.
2. Approval of Bids & Building Permit for Bower Elementary School – Recommend the approval of the bids as presented and approval of the resolution for a building permit for Bower School.
3. Approval to Dispose of Fixed Asset Items – Recommend approval to declare specific computers and computer accessories surplus and allow the district to dispose of them.
4. Approval to Change the December 10, 2008 Board of Education Meeting to December 17, 2008 – Recommend approval to reschedule the December 10, 2008 Board of Education meeting to December 17, 2008 as presented and allowable by law.
5. Approval to Post the 2009-10 District Calendar for 30 Days for Public Review and Comment – Recommend approval to post the proposed calendar as presented.
6. Approval of Revisions to Policies 7.70, 7.50 and 6.300 – Recommend approval of the revisions to the policies as presented and posted for 30 days.
7. Approval of School Improvement Plans, School Improvement/Restructuring Plans from WNSH and WWSHS, and District Improvement Plans – Recommend the approval of the plans as presented.
8. Approval of Contract Renewal for ElectronicSchoolBoard – Recommend the renewal of the three year contract for the paperless electronic Board system at a cost of \$9,810 per year for a total of \$29,430 as presented.
9. Approval of Bills Payable and Payroll – Recommend approval of bills payable and payroll as presented.
10. Approval of Minutes –October 22, 2008 Open and Closed, and Approval to Destroy Recordings of Closed Session Meetings Prior to May 2007 – Recommend the approval of the October 22, 2008 Open and Closed Session Minutes as presented and approval to destroy the recordings of the closed session meetings prior to May 2007 as allowed by law. The Closed Session minutes will remain closed.
11. Approval of Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports – Recommend the approval of the Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports as presented.

Dr. Rammer gave a presentation on the proposed school calendar. This presentation provided information on how the calendar was developed, and how input was sought from the staff and parents. There was a discussion about semester break for the high schools and how the decision was reached to propose the semester break falling after the winter break. Both high school principals were present and responded to Board questions. The calendar will be posted for 30 days for public review and input. It will be available on the web page and has been emailed to all recipients of the Board Highlights.

MOTION

Member Slater moved, Member Intihar seconded to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

DISCUSSION ITEM

IASB Resolutions

Each year the Board of Education is presented with resolutions from the IASB and asked to review the resolutions and advise the Board of Education representative to the Resolution Committee to vote on behalf of the Board of Education during the annual conference in Chicago. At a previous meeting, the Board appointed President Johnson to be the representative to the resolutions committee. The Board discussed the proposed resolutions from the IASB and instructed to Mr. Johnson to vote in support of the committee recommendations on all of the resolutions except Resolution 2 to add more school days to the calendar.

WRITTEN REPORTS

FY09 Grant Report

LLC Report

These reports were provided for information only.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Member Intihar reported that she attended the Veteran's Day ceremony at Whittier and it was wonderful.

President Johnson reported that the League of Women Voters invited him to represent the school board on a panel with other community leaders. The session will be held on November 20 at the Park District Community Center and is intended as an opportunity to report on how things are going with the various representative groups.

Member Bomher stated that he attended the State Cross Country meet last weekend. Mr. Bomher said that it was a great event and the kids did a fantastic job.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

December 17, 2008 (rescheduled from December 10, 2008) – Edison Middle School

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items

President Johnson stated that the public comments are valuable and important to Board members. However, it is the Board's policy not to take action on any items until time has been taken to gather adequate information and objectively discuss available options. Lack of action on comments made at this meeting does not imply any lack of interest in what has been said.

Speaker	Mary Ann Uhen
Topic	Polling Places

MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Knicker moved, Member Intihar seconded to suspend the rules and adjourn the meeting to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Personnel Items 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1), Student Discipline 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(9), and The Setting of a Price for Sale or Lease of Property Owned by the District 5 ILCS 120/2 (c)(6). Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 9:10 PM.

Action is expected following the Closed Session

MOTION

Member Bomher moved, Member Coghill seconded to reinstate the rules and reconvene in Open Session. Upon a roll call being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

The meeting was reconvened at 11:12 PM.

MOTION

Member Swanson moved Member Knicker seconded to uphold the suspension of student S2008-09-02. Upon a roll call being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0, ABSTAIN 1 (Coghill). **The motion carried 6-0-1.**

MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Intihar moved, Member Bomher seconded to adjourn the meeting. Upon a roll call being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 PM.

Barbara Intihar, Secretary

Andrew Johnson, President