

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
March 11, 2009

The first regular meeting of the month of March of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, was called to order at Wheaton Warrenville South High School, 1993 Tiger Trail, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Andy Johnson, on Wednesday, March 11, 2009, at 7:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

Board Members: Andrew Johnson
 Ken Knicker
 Marie Slater
 Joann Coghill
 Rosemary Swanson
 John Bomher

Absent: Barbara Intihar

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

Mr. Bob Quinn led the Board and community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE HOST SCHOOL

Dr. Snyder, Principal at WWSHS, welcomed the Board, administrators and community members to the school. Dr. Snyder shared the many ways in which staff members carry out the beliefs of the district every day. Dr. Snyder listed many areas and staff members that contribute to the WWSHS team as the “inspire in everyone a passion to excel.”

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

RECOGNITIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

None

PUBLIC COMMENTS – 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.

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| Speaker | Lauri Arthurs |
| Topic | Budget - Intramurals |

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| Speaker | Gerald Harris |
| Topic | Budget |

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| Speaker | Sydney Fedor |
| Topic | Budget – B Teams |

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| Speaker | Triva Hall |
| Topic | Budget – B Teams |

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| Speaker | Mark Stern for Betty Welker |
| Topic | Budget |

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| Speaker | David Durgan |
| Topic | Budget |

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| Speaker | Bryce Cann |
| Topic | Budget |

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| Speaker | Pam Bassi |
| Topic | Budget |

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

None

REPORTS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Change Orders – Recommend the approval of the change orders as presented.
2. Approval of the Novell Software License Agreement Renewal – Recommend approval of the license agreement renewal as presented.
3. Approval of Bills Payable and Payroll – Recommend approval of bills payable and payroll as presented.
4. Approval of Minutes – February 25, 2009 Open – Recommend approval of the minutes as presented.
5. Approval of Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports – Recommend the approval of the Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports as presented.
- 6.

MOTION

Member Slater moved, Member Swanson 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.**

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Hubble Site Grading Bid

An additional site grading bid package was required due to constraints of the site which limited the grades that could be adjusted. The outcome was additional spoils were generated on site. This bid is to load, haul and dump the spoils off site. A total of thirteen (13) contractors replied to the call for bid on this project. Naperville Excavation was the low bid at \$155,183.00. Naperville was originally awarded the mass excavation package on this project. The alternate bid for sod was not accepted. A decision on using sod versus seeding will be made in the spring. The contract for landscaping has a unit rate for sod which is better than the alternate provided. A letter of recommendation and the bid results from Bovis Lend Lease were attached to this report. It is recommend that the Board of Education award the contract for additional site grading to Naperville Excavating in the amount of \$155,183.00.

MOTION

Member Coghill moved, Member Bomher seconded to award the contract for additional site grading to Naperville excavating in the amount of \$155,183.00. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of the Transition House Lease

The District is seeking the renewal of the Transition House lease. The house is located at 1202 Liberty in Wheaton, and is owned by Lorraine Derby. The lease will run from March 1, 2009 through June 30, 2010. The Transition House program serves the needs of special education students ranging in age from 19-22. The community-based instructional program teaches life skills, focusing on home and community as well as providing vocational opportunities. Students also attend classes at the College of DuPage. It is recommended that the Board approve the renewal of the Transition House lease in the amount of \$1,680.00 per month, totaling \$25,200.00 for the 15 month lease.

MOTION

Member Swanson moved, Member Slater seconded to approve the renewal of the Transition House lease in the amount of \$1,680.00 per month, totaling \$25,200.00 for the 15 month lease. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of the Finance Committee Recommendation

One of the Board high priority goals was to develop a working group of staff and two board members to update a finance plan for long term stability. To meet that goal, a finance committee was formed. The finance committee met over several months and developed a recommendation to take a three phase approach to resolving the budget deficit. The first phase is to reduce expenditures by \$5M to \$7M and issue \$20M in working cash bonds. The remaining two phases will include further reductions, working to obtain additional revenue, and working with local legislators to improve the way education is funded. In order to reduce the current spending by \$5M to \$7M, staff met to develop a list of potential cuts that could be made at all levels, while trying to have the least impact on students. On February 11, the Board was given a list of the proposed budget reductions. At the February 25, 2009 Board meeting there was a line by line discussion of these proposed reductions. Additional information was requested by Board members on 9 of the 96 line items. That information was provided to the Board and community prior to the this Board meeting. It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the recommendation of the Finance Committee and approve the budget reductions for the 2009-10 school year as presented.

The Board decided to remove items 42 - textbooks, 49 – elementary orchestra stipends, 55 – high school counselor, 56 – high school deans, 62 – high school student supervisors, 65 – high school intramurals, 71 – middle school assistant athletic directors, 72 – middle school B team coaches, and 73 – middle school B team travel and referees, from the total 96 items proposed for reduction for separate action. The remaining 86 line items will be voted on as a group.

There was a discussion about items 36 and 52 that pertain to reductions in the PACE program. Mrs. Kathie Bossier reported on why these reductions were recommended and how the program will be restructured if the reductions are approved.

MOTION

Member Slater moved, Member Swanson seconded to approve the recommendation of the finance committee as presented with the exception of items 42, 49, 55, 56, 62, 65, 71, 72 and 73. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

The Board then discussed items 71, 72, and 73, which all pertain to the middle school B teams. Dr. Drury reported that he and Dr. Belha met with the Director of the Wheaton Park District to discuss the possibilities of the Park District taking over the running of the B team athletics. The Park District indicated that they believe they can take over running the program and offer it to more students and still maintain “coached/instructed” teams. It is recommended that the Board approve this reduction at this time and if the Park District is not ready to run the program by the start of the 2009-10 school year, District 200 will run the B team program as it currently exists for one more year.

MOTION

Member Swanson moved to approve the reduction of the middle school B teams and work with the Wheaton Park District to run an identical program in its place, with the understanding that if the Park District program is not in place for the start of the 2009-10 school year, District 200 will run the current B team program for one additional year.

This motion died for lack of a second.

The Board then discussed item 65 – high school intramurals. Staff recommended that this reduction be removed from consideration because there are no firm alternatives to restructuring the program. By postponing this decision for one year, high school staff members can examine possible alternatives. Due to this recommendation, no action was taken and this item is not part of the reductions.

The Board then discussed items 55 – high school counselors, 56 – high school deans, and 62 – high school student supervisors. Board members had previously been given additional information that outlined the rationale for these reductions. The Board asked how the schools will operate without these roles. Dr. Snyder stated that, as with all of the reductions, people will have to pick up additional responsibilities to cover the needs. The complete details of how this work will be absorbed are still being developed. Member Bomher stated that he hopes staff will evaluate the impact of these reductions and come back to the Board if it does not work. There was discussion about the possibility of using potential stimulus money to install security cameras in the high schools.

President Johnson stated that Member Intihar requested that the Board not approve these

reductions.

MOTION

Member Bomher moved, Member Coghill seconded to approve the reduction of items 55, 56 and 62 as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Member Swanson requested that once the plan for covering the responsibilities of these positions is developed, Board members receive a report on how it is being handled.

The Board then discussed item 49 – elementary orchestra stipends. Dr. Belha reported that the recommendation that was previously given reflected a total of \$31,000 for elementary stipends. By cutting the fourth grade orchestra program, this total would be reduced by \$15,000. The orchestra teachers have since requested that they be given the ability to provide orchestra practice weekly for 5th grade orchestra instead of every other week, which would negate some of the \$15,000 savings. Staff is requesting that the Board approve the reduction of stipends up to \$15,000 and that staff be given time to study the program and determine what is best for students.

MOTION

Member Swanson moved, Member Slater seconded to direct staff to work with the elementary orchestra stipend reduction to reduce up to \$15,000 while working to enhance the 5th grade orchestra. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

The Board then discussed item 42 – workbooks foreign language and others. Dr. Drury reported that staff listened to teachers and administrators and recommends that this reduction be omitted at this time for further study before the next set of reductions next year. Due to this recommendation, no action was taken and this item is not part of the reductions.

President Johnson thanked the staff for the hard work that got the district to this recommendation in a very short time. The Board knows this was not easy and lots of heart and soul went into these decisions.

Member Slater was a member of the Finance Committee and took this opportunity to thank all of the members of the committee and all staff members for a wonderful job. Member Slater stated that she appreciated all of the emails from staff and community members. The Board tried to meet the needs of all in a very transparent manner.

Dr. Drury stated that it would be helpful if community members contact the state legislators about funding of education in Illinois. Information will be put on the district web site about how to contact them and what the issues are that impact funding.

Member Swanson suggested that the Board propose a resolution to the IASB resolution committee regarding the impact of CPI on funding. Board members agreed and Members Swanson and Johnson will develop a resolution to present to the other Board members for possible submission.

Approval of Resolution of Intent to Issue Working cash Fund Bonds & Approval of Order to Call a Public Hearing concerning the Intent to Issue Working Cash Fund Bonds

At the last Board of Education Meeting, the possibility of selling Working Cash Fund Bonds was discussed. The Finance Committee recommended that \$20 million in Working Cash Fund Bonds be issued. The administration has been working with Bill Hepworth of R.W. Baird & Associates on many different scenarios to raise the funds without an impact on the current tax rate.

In order to begin the process of issuing bonds, the Board must adopt a "Resolution of Intent to Issue Working Cash Fund Bonds". If approved, the Notice of Intent must be published in a newspaper of general circulation in the school district. The notice will be published in the Daily Herald on March 13, 2009. During the following thirty (30) days the Board must make available a petition form to any individual requesting such a form. At the completion of the thirty-day cycle, petitions totaling ten percent (10%) (5,080) of the total number of registered voters (50,804) in the school district would need to be filed in order for the issue to go on the ballot of the next general election.

The Board must also approve an Order to Call a Public Hearing concerning the Intent of the Board to issue bonds. The Public Hearing must be held at least seven days prior to the adoption of the Bond Sale resolution. The Notice of Public Hearing will be published on March 13, 2009, and the Public Hearing will be held on March 25, 2009 at Lowell Elementary School. The final step is the adoption of the Bond Sale Resolution which would occur at the April 15th Board Meeting.

The Resolution of Intent and Order Calling a Public Hearing as presented includes all necessary language and has been approved by Bond Counsel as well as District Counsel.

Member Bomher read the following resolutions:

Resolution declaring the intention to avail of the provisions of Article 20 of the School Code of the State of Illinois, as amended, and to issue Working Cash Fund Bonds of Community Unit School District Number 200, DuPage County, Illinois, and directing that notice of such intention be published in the manner provided by law.

PUBLIC NOTICE is HEREBY GIVEN that Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois (the "District"), will hold a public hearing on the 25th day of March 2009 at 7:30 o'clock P.M. The hearing will be held in the Lowell Elementary School, 311 South President Street, Wheaton, Illinois. The purpose of the hearing will be to receive public comments on the proposal to sell bonds for the District in the amount of \$20,000,000 for the purpose of increasing the working cash fund of the District.

MOTION

Member Bomher moved, Member Swanson seconded to approve the Resolution of Intent to Issue Working Cash Fund Bonds & Approval of Order to Call a Public Hearing concerning the Intent to Issue Working Cash Fund Bonds as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

None

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Chance to Chat Session – March 14, 2009 - SSC

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

March 25, 2009 – Lowell Elementary School

March 18, 2009 – Special Closed Session - SSC

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.

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| Speaker | Mark Stern |
| Topic | IASB |

Member Slater stated that Mr. Stern should contact the Vice President and Executive Director of IASB and share his concerns.

MOTION

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

The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 9:40 PM.

No action is expected following the closed session.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:38 AM.

Barbara Intihar, Secretary

Andrew Johnson, President