

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
August 26, 2009

The second regular meeting of the month of August of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, was called to order at the School Service Center, 130 W. Park Avenue, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Andy Johnson, on Wednesday, August 26, 2009, at 7:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

Board Members: Andy Johnson
 John Bomher
 Joann Coghill
 Barbara Intihar
 Ken Knicker
 Marie Slater
 Rosemary Swanson

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

President Johnson led the Board and community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

RECOGNITIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

President Johnson thanked everyone, especially Dr. Beth Sullivan and Mr. Bill Farley, for the very successful opening of Hubble Middle School.

Dr. Drury congratulated Board Members Marie Slater, Rosemary Swanson, Ken Knicker, and Barbara Intihar for maintaining their Master Status with the Illinois Association of School Board Master Board Member Program. These awards represent their commitment to life-long learning and their dedication to serving the community.

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.

Speaker	Mark Stern
Topic	Hubble Occupancy

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Mrs. Linda Knicker, Assistant Superintendent for Student Services, gave a report on the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), the educational arm of the federal stimulus program. ARRA represents funds from the federal government earmarked for public education and are intended to help support the costs of educating students with special needs. Ms. Knicker indicated that it costs approximately four times as much to educate a student with special needs as it does a student in regular education; therefore, the federal dollars are appropriately being applied to these services. A portion of these funds may be used to offset costs that the District spends on these programs that are not supported by federal grants or allotments.

One of the requirements for using ARRA funds, aside from very strict accounting and monitoring regulations, is to extend educational opportunities for students. Ms. Knicker and her staff have added to the District's very successful afternoon High School Academy by implementing a day Academy at both high schools. These academies target students who may otherwise drop out of school for a variety of reasons and provides tailor-made educational opportunities to help them attain their high school diploma. Students who may be credit deficient or who may be dealing with personal or educational challenges are enrolled in these Academies and work with certified teachers to regain lost credits and fulfill graduation requirements.

The afternoon Academy has been very successful and all indications are that the day Academy will meet the needs of some students who may otherwise not be able to meet graduation standards through traditional means.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval to Dispose of Assets – Recommend approval to declare specific copiers surplus and allow the district to dispose of them.
2. Approval of Hubble Change Orders – Approval of the change orders as presented.
3. Approval of Final Occupancy for New Hubble Middle School – Recommend the approval to request an occupancy permit from the Regional Office of Education.
4. Approval of Minutes – August 12, 2009 Open and Closed – Recommend the approval of the August 12, 2009 Open and Closed minutes as presented. The Closed Session Minutes will remain closed.
5. Approval of Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports – Recommend the approval of the Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports as presented.

MOTION

Member Slater moved, Member Coghill 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.**

DISCUSSION ITEM

2009-10 Tentative Budget

Mr. Bill Farley stated that staffing is the biggest line item on the budget. Elementary staff

appears to be down by 30 FTE in the teaching ranks this year. Mr. Farley credits the work of Dr. Belha and her staff for their work in reducing the FTE. This shows the commitment to the budget reductions. There will be a budget hearing at the September 26, 2009 Board of Education meeting at Franklin Middle School.

WRITTEN REPORTS

FOIA Report

This report was provided for information only.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Member Knicker reported that he was at Hubble on opening day when the buses arrived. Mr. Knicker stated that it was a joy to see the smiles on the faces of students, staff and parents. Hubble is an incredible program driven facility and the community should be very proud of the entire facility.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Policy 2.40 Board Member Qualifications – Student Representatives

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

September 9, 2009 – Pleasant Hill Elementary School – 7:30 PM

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items

None

MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Knicker moved, Member Bomher 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) and Collective Negotiating Matters 5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2). 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 8:24 PM.

No action is expected following the closed session.

Barbara Intihar, Secretary

Andrew Johnson, President