

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
January 14, 2009

The first regular meeting of the month of January of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, was called to order at Lincoln Elementary School, 630 Dawes Avenue, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Andy Johnson, on Wednesday, January 14, 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
 Barbara Intihar (arrived at 7:39 PM)
 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

Mr. Tom Kinane led the Board and community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE HOST SCHOOL

Mrs. Kathy DeMarzo, Principal of Lincoln Elementary School, welcomed the Board, administration and community to Lincoln School. Mrs. DeMarzo recognized the staff that were present and the PTA President. Mrs. DeMarzo showed two video clips of work created by students. These clips demonstrate how technology is an integral part of the curriculum and works toward achieving the district goal of preparing students for 21st Century learning.

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

The Action Item to accept the audit was removed from the agenda until a later date because the auditor was unable to attend the meeting and give his report.

The All Day Kindergarten Pilot Program discussion was removed from the agenda for further review by staff.

RECOGNITIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

- Four WWSHS students have been named as IMEA (Illinois Music Educators Assoc.) All State in their respective ensembles and will be attending the IMEA All State Conference

January 28-30. They are Mitch Dzugan - band, trumpet
 Meghan Kelleher – chorus, soprano
 Lillian Chou – orchestra, violin
 Ben Tietze – orchestra, viola

This is a great honor for these students who work hard to perfect their talent and we congratulate them for their accomplishment. They will be accompanied by their respective directors as they attend the all state program in Peoria, IL.

- Congratulations to Jill Bullo, Principal at WNHS, who was recently named the Illinois Music Educator Association Outstanding Administrator 2009 for the state of Illinois. The music educators from WNHS nominated Ms. Bullo through the submission of a detailed portfolio of testimonials from teachers, department chairs, and parents, as well as other supporting material. She will be recognized at the IMEA All-State Festival on Thursday, January 29th at the Opening General Session.

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	Bills Payable

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Drury reported the following:

- A few weeks ago when there was a thaw and rain storm, Bower experienced water problems again. No water got into the building, but it was rising quickly and was up into the parking lot. Tom DeHart, Colin Wilkie, Bill Farley and crews from Buildings and Grounds worked very hard to prevent the water from getting into the building. Staff moved things to the high end of the building. Beutjer Plumbing was on the site with pumps and was pumping water from the site at a rate of 4000 gallons a minute. Officials from Warrenville went to Naperville to look at the dam and try to assess why Warrenville has flooded two times since Naperville began closing the dam.
- The restoration work at Bower is nearly completed. The Gym floor is the only remaining area to be repaired and work on the floor will begin on January 19.
- The Hubble project is on budget, but behind on schedule due to the hard winter weather this year. Bovis believes they will be able to catch up and still complete the project on time.
- Budget issues are dominating everyone’s time at the district. Cabinet members and principals have been meeting to look at spending and possible areas for reductions.
- The PTA Council met today and asked questions about the process used to determine whether to close school or not. Dr. Drury and Mr. Farley begin watching the National Weather Service as soon as reports of potential bad weather are released. At approximately 3:45 AM, Dr. Drury drives around the district to see the conditions of the roads. Around 4:45 AM, Mr. Farley calls Dr. Drury with a status report from the bus company and facilities staff. At 5:00 AM, Dr. Drury joins a conference call with all of the surrounding area superintendents to see if other districts are opening or not. Once the

decision is made to close, the calls are put in place to notify staff and parents. PTA members also asked why District 200 does not do late start on bad days like some other districts. It was explained that late starts often occur in high school only or elementary only districts; however, it is hard to do in a unit district. District 200 uses a three tier bus route system. A late start would mean each level would have to start later than their regular start time, which means that elementary students would not start until approximately 11:00. The PTA also questioned why exams were given on Monday after the winter break instead of giving the students more review time. Administrators and principals made the decision to not delay the start of the semester any further, so finals were given on the first day back.

- The district just completed another pod cast that will be on the web site soon. This pod cast highlights the work of the health service staff in the district.

Mr. Johnson stated that the Board held a Chance to Chat session at WNHS and the students that attended indicated that they felt the tests after break were not a problem.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of High School Change Order – Recommend approval of the change order as presented.
2. Approval to Post K-8 Science Textbooks – Recommend approval to post the K-8 science textbooks for 30 days for public review and comment.
3. Approval to Post for Public Review, Policy 4.171, Energy Management Conservation – Recommend approval to post Policy 4.171 for 30 days for public review and comment.
4. Acceptance of Gift to the Technology Department – Recommend the acceptance of the gift of services as presented.
5. Approval of Surety Bond Coverage for the 2008 Construction Fund Bond – Recommend approval of the bond coverage as presented.
6. Adoption of Resolution to Begin the 2009-10 Budget Cycle – Recommend adoption of the resolution as presented.
7. Approval of Bills Payable and Payroll – Recommend approval of bills payable and payroll as presented.
8. Approval of Minutes –November 12, 2008 Open & Closed, December 2, 2008 Closed, and December 17, 2008 Open and Closed Sessions – Recommend approval of the minutes as presented. The closed session minutes will remain closed.
9. Approval of Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports – Recommend the approval of the Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports as presented.

There was a discussion about the textbooks that are up for approval to post. Board members questioned the cost and if this purchase will be affected by the finance committee recommendation. Dr. Drury reported that these textbooks are already part of the 2008-09 budget, and a portion of the cost is paid for from the state textbook loan. The textbook loan money must be used in this fiscal year and is earmarked by the state for this grade level and subject area. The requested action tonight is to post only and the Board will not be asked to approve the purchase until after the 30 day posting period, which will be after the finance committee has made their recommendation to the Board. Much time has been spent on the science program renewal and it has taken considerable time and effort to bring staff to a consensus on the program and materials. The current textbooks are nine years old.

MOTION

Member Coghill moved, Member Intihar 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

Acceptance of the 2007-08 Audit

Removed from the agenda for a future meeting

DISCUSSION ITEM

All Day Kindergarten Proposal

Removed from the agenda for a future meeting

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

February 11, 2009 – Washington Elementary School

The Board and administrators will have a workshop on January 28, 2009 on diversity.

The next Chat with the Board session will be held on February 14, 2009 at WNHS.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items

None

MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Slater moved, Member Swanson 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). 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 8:15 PM.

Barbara Intihar, Secretary

Andrew Johnson, President