

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200**  
**March 22, 2006**

The second 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 Lowell Elementary School, 312 S. President Street, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Andy Johnson, on Wednesday, March 22, 2006, at 7:30 PM.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

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

Also in Attendance:  Dr. Gary T. Catalani  
                              Dr. Lori Belha  
                              Mr. Bill Farley  
                              Mrs. Linda Knicker  
                              Dr. Margo Sorrick

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

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

**COMMUNICATION WITH HOST SCHOOL**

Mrs. Denise DeSalvo, Principal of Lowell School, welcomed the Board, administrators and community to Lowell School. Mrs. DeSalvo thanked the Board for coming early to observe the PE Show put on by the students prior to the start of the meeting.

**MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mr. 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	Michelle Senatore, Betty Welker, Mark O. Stern
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Topic	Education 200
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Speaker	Eredai Vivanco
Topic	Parent Spanish University

Member Swanson stated that she is having trouble with the Educate 200 group. Member Swanson made a decision to not attend their meeting at Hubble on March 16. She does not think that this is good government. Her feelings have nothing to do with turf. She appreciates the group's desire and efforts and values comments from the community. She feels that the Board has established channels for people that want to get involved and express their opinions. The Hubble Committee has a subgroup whose job it is to look at "Plan B" if no land is found to build a new school in the southwest portion of the district. It seems that Educate 200 and the Board are on parallel tracks. The first priority of the Board is to find an alternate site. The materials from Educate 200 do not seem to indicate that their plans would be used only if an alternate site is not found. The Board of Education is the voice of the people as elected officials. It does not seem fair that this group has the resources to do this while cutting others out of the process. Member Swanson fears this effort is going in the wrong direction. If Educate 200 legitimately wants to give information, they should do it through the Hubble Committee should another site not be able to be found. Member Swanson stated that she respects their efforts but they are not a committee appointed by the Board and does not have representation of all of the stakeholders. She wants to be very clear that the Educate 200 is not representative of the Board or the district. Member Swanson feels very strongly about the role of representative government.

President Johnson stated that to be very clear, the public needs to know that Educate 200 is operating outside the Board's stated goal to build in the southwest part of the district. The appropriate channel for their suggestions is the Hubble Committee.

### **RECOGNITIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS**

President Johnson recognized a fourth grade student from Johnson School who wrote a letter to the Board and Dr. Catalani regarding the length of time students must travel from Warrentville to Hubble Middle School. In his letter he compared the mileage from his house to Edison, Hubble and Monroe and stated that he believes the district could save money with some other options. The letter was very well written and the student had done considerable research to present his point.

President Johnson reported that he read an article in a magazine that showed the percentage of the gross domestic product spent on education in several countries. The United States was the lowest with 2%.

### **SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Catalani publicly thanked Dr. Sorricks, the Education Services Department, the Principals of the Elementary and Middle Schools and all of the teaching staff at the Elementary and Middle Schools for their work in administering the ISATs. There were considerable challenges with the materials and the process to get ready for and return the test materials. Dr. Catalani reported that he sent a letter to State Superintendent Randy Dunn suggesting that there were numerous flaws and that District 200 questions the validity of the test results. Staff will be closely monitoring the results of our students on these tests.

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

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approval of Minutes – March 8 Open & Closed - Recommend the approval of the minutes as presented. The closed session minutes will remain closed.
2. Approval of Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports – Recommend the approval of the Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports as presented.

### **MOTION**

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

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

The Board of Education listened to presentations on superintendent searches. The presenters were The Bickert Group; Illinois Association School Boards (IASB); School Exec Connect; and Hazard, Young Attea & Assoc. These presenters shared information on their company and the format typically used to conduct a superintendent search. The Board asked questions of each presenter. The Board will discuss the information and the search process at the April 26, 2006 Board meeting.

Board members should direct any further questions for the presenters to Barbara Intihar and Mary Lou Sender.

### **REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Member Swanson reported on a Character Counts workshop she attended and gave the Board members a handout from the workshop.

Member Swanson reported on the Spring Dinner Meeting of the IASB. The speaker at the meeting spoke about the culture of learning.

Member Slater reminded everyone about the upcoming National School Board Association (NSBA) annual conference in Chicago from April 8-11. Monday, April 10, District 200 will be presenting on safety and security.

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

Hubble Goal

Superintendent Search

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- Next Regular Meeting – April 12, 2006 – Pleasant Hill Elementary School

### **MOTION**

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Slater moved, Member Bomher seconded to suspend the rules and adjourn the meeting to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Personnel Issues 5ILCS 1202(c)(1), Potential Land Acquisition 5ILCS 120/2(c)(5) and Pending Litigation 5ILCS 120/2(c)(11). 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 10:03 PM.

Action is expected following the Closed Session.

**MOTION**

Member Bomher moved, Member Knicker 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 Open Session was reconvened at 10:35 PM.

**MOTION**

Member Bomher moved, Member Swanson seconded to approve the Insurance Settlement Agreement and Release as presented in Closed Session. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

**MOTION**

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Coghill moved, Member Slater seconded to adjourn the meeting. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.** The meeting was adjourned at 10:40 PM.

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**Barbara Intihar, Secretary**

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**Andrew Johnson, President**