

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
March 8, 2006

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 Jefferson Preschool, 130 N. Hazelton, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Andy Johnson, on Wednesday, March 8, 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 (arrived at 7:35)

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Sender led the Board and community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMUNICATION WITH HOST SCHOOL

Mrs. Stephanie Farrelly, Principal of Jefferson Preschool, welcomed the Board, administrators and community to Jefferson School. Mrs. Farrelly recognized the staff and PTA and shared a video that showed how the students of Jefferson Preschool made a difference in the lives of the neighborhood, community and nation.

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	Mark O. Stern, Michelle Senatore, Betty Welker, Paul Yousif
Topic	Educate 200 Foundation

President Johnson, for clarification purposes, stated that the Educate 200 group is not affiliated with the New 200 Foundation that has been in existence for a number of years to raise funds for education in District 200. President Johnson also stated that building a new middle school in the southwest portion of the district is still a high priority goal for the Board of Education.

RECOGNITIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Catalani introduced Wheaton Park District Board President Jeff Cook and Executive Director of the Park District Rob Robinson. Mr. Cook addressed the Board and community. Mr. Cook thanked the Board for the opportunity to address them and stated that his primary purposes for speaking tonight are to express the Park Board's feeling that it is time for a new spirit of cooperation between the Park District and the School District. Together the two boards can work together in a better way for the all of the tax payers. Mr. Cook then formally introduced Mr. Rob Robinson, the new Executive Director of the Wheaton Park District. Mr. Robinson comes to the Park District with multiple levels of experience and a long background of managing parks. When the Park Board hired Mr. Robinson, a list of goals was set and one of those goals was to set a vision for the Park Board and work in a cooperative sense with the other public entities.

Mr. Robinson thanked the Board for allowing them to speak tonight. Mr. Robinson and Dr. Catalani have already had several meetings and they are both very excited about education and recreation coming together. Agreements are already being created for shared use of the fieldhouses and when the Hubble decision is made, whatever role the Park District can play, they are ready to help.

Dr. Catalani introduced Linda Knicker, Executive Director of Special Services. Mrs. Knicker stated that the District 200 Special Olympics team is in its second year and has 26 athletes. The team will be competing at North Central College on April and anyone interested in supporting the team is invited to come and cheer them on.

Dr. Catalani reported the following:

- District 200 was recently recognized as one of 61 Illinois School Districts to receive the Bright A+ Award for academic excellence. Given by SchoolSearch, an educational research and consulting firm, the award has been given to District 200 each year since its inception in 1999. The award recognizes school district whose academic performance ranks in the upper 5% of Illinois districts based on state tests.
- Since the last Board meeting, the district has received one FOI request, this one seeking to review the contracts between the district and Bovis Lend Lease and Legat Architects as they relate to WNHS, WWSHS and Hubble Middle School. The contracts were provided to the individual requesting the information.
- The first indoor boy's track meet in the new fieldhouse at WNHS will be held Friday, March 10, with three schools participating. The first girl's indoor track meet will be held on Saturday. North will host the DVC Indoor meet the following week. This is the first time District 200 has been host to any indoor track meet because we have not had the facilities until the field house was completed.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval to Post High School Courses: Adult Living, Child Development and Preschool Lab, Computer Literacy, Desktop Publishing, Fashion Merchandising, Keyboarding, Marketing, and Photography 1 & 2 – Recommend the approval to post the curriculum as presented.
2. Approval of High School Change Orders – Recommend the approval of the change orders as presented.
3. Approval to Post Policy 5.90, Reporting Suspected Child Abuse and Neglect – Recommend the approval to post the policy as presented.
4. Approval to Post Policy 4.155, naming District Facilities – Recommend the approval to post the policy as presented.
5. Approval of Minutes – February 8 Open & Closed, February 15 Open, February 22 Open & Closed - Recommend the approval of the minutes as presented. The closed session minutes will remain closed.
6. Approval of Bills Payable and Payroll – Recommend the approval of the Bills Payable and Payroll as presented.
7. 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.**

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Transition House Lease

District 200 leases a house at 1202 Liberty in Wheaton for the Special Services Transition Program. The program serves special needs students age 18-21. The lease, in the amount of \$1,520 per month, is due for renewal. It is recommended that the Board renew the one year lease for the transition program house with owner Lorraine Derby.

MOTION

Member Intihar moved, Member Slater seconded to approve the one year lease renewal with Lorraine Derby for the Transition House in the amount of \$1,520 per month. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval of Grades 7-8 Social Studies Supplemental Materials

The Board is being asked to approve the listed seventh and eighth grade supplemental social studies materials. The materials were on display for an initial 30 days and then extended through this Board meeting because of questions raised about one of the supplemental books. The comments were reviewed by the task force of teachers and staff met with the two individuals that submitted questions and concerns. No additional comments have been received. It is recommended that the Board approve the supplemental materials as posted and presented.

Member Swanson stated that she still has reservations about the material. Member Swanson believes the review process was handled very well and she appreciates the work that went into

reviewing the materials a second time. Member Swanson will probably still vote no because she feels the material does not live up to the policy on textbook adoption because it does not, in her opinion, present opposing sides of a controversial topic.

Members Knicker and Intihar expressed support for the book. Member Slater stated that she believes there is great strength in the review process.

MOTION

Member Slater moved, Member Intihar seconded to approve the Grades 7-8 Social Studies Supplemental materials as posted and presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6 (Slater, Intihar, Bomher, Coghill, Knicker, Johnson), NAY 1 (Swanson). **The motion carried 6-1.**

Approval of Wheaton North Gym Floor Refinishing Project

Due to normal wear and tear, gym floors need to be refinished on a regular basis. The industry standard for this type of project is every eight to ten years. By refinishing our gym floors, they will last longer and be maintained in better condition, allowing for better performance. It has been over ten years since the main gym floor at WNHS has been refinished. Notification was published and in addition to a base bid, the district invited two base bids. Alternate 1 was for ventilating base around the main gym floor and Alternate 2 was for refinishing the second gym floor (small gym) using the same work scope specifications. Staff, in conjunction with the architects and other school districts, has determined that the low base bid is a comparable quote. It is recommended that the Board approve the bid from Floors, Inc in the amount of \$37,500 for the refinishing of the main gym floor. It is also recommended that the Board approve Alternate 1 for the ventilating base in the amount of \$4,770 and that Alternate 2 be rejected.

MOTION

Member Bomher moved, Member Swanson seconded to approve the base bid of \$37,500 and Alternate Bid 1 of \$4,770 from Floors, Inc. for the WNHS gym floor refinishing project, and to reject Alternate 2. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Approval to Reject Bleacher Automation System Bid

Staff had sought bids for a bleacher automation system at both high schools. Only one bidder responded to the request. Based on the current budget, this project is not possible at this time. It is recommended that the Board reject the bid.

MOTION

Member Knicker moved, Member Bomher seconded to reject the bid for the bleacher automation system. Upon a voice call vote being taken, all were in favor and **the motion carried.**

Approval of 2006-07 Fee Schedule

Each year since 1994, the Board has annually approved the registration fee schedule for the following school year. The Board was given a list of the proposed fee schedule for the 2006-07 school year. The fees represent an increase in the technology fee at all levels. The elementary fee includes an additional \$2 fee to cover the cost of the classroom calculators per the Board's request. There is also an additional line item at each level for additional course/classroom consumables which indicates a charge of at cost. These are not new fees for parents, as they

have been charged in the past. The line item only adds an umbrella statement to the fee schedule. It is recommended that the Board approve the 2006-07 fee schedule as presented.

Member Intihar stated that private driver's education fees have increased so the increased cost for the District 200 program is still less. Also, Member Intihar requested that staff look into removing the fee line item for band uniform cleaning since other groups have uniforms that need to be cleaned and they are not listed. Dr. Catalani stated that staff will look at that for next year's list.

MOTION

Member Slater moved, Member Swanson seconded to approve the 2006-07 student fee schedule as presented. Upon a voice call vote being taken, all were in favor and **the motion carried.**

Adoption of the Vision and Mission Statement

One of the Board's high priority goals is the development of a new vision and mission statement. A series of focus group sessions was held last year to get feedback from the community regarding their values for the public schools. A community survey was subsequently conducted and confirmed the finding of the focus groups. A writing team was appointed by the Board to draft the vision and mission statement based on the feedback from the focus groups and survey. The first draft was presented to the Board in December with comments invited prior to the first January meeting. On January 11, the Board discussed the statement and agreed on several changes or edits. Meanwhile, the staff and community were invited to offer their comments on the proposed draft. Approximately 30 individuals responded by mail or email. The writing team met again to review the comments and make final edits to the document. It is recommended that the Board adopt the proposed vision and mission statement as presented by the writing team with the proposed changes.

Member Intihar highlighted the changes since the last meeting. Member Coghill stated that the committee is very pleased with the final version. Board members discussed the need to get this statement out to staff and the community and a desire to make sure everyone embraces the statement and buys into it. The statement will be put on the district web site immediately.

President Johnson stated that "Inspiring in everyone a passion to excel" is the mantra the district should live up to. The vision and mission statement will drive the financial plan that will be developed.

MOTION

Member Swanson moved, Member Slater seconded to adopt the Vision and Mission Statement as presented with the revisions suggested by the writing team. Upon a voice call vote being taken, all were in favor and **the motion carried.**

Approval to Apply for Calendar Waiver

The current waiver to observe President's Day as a school holiday rather than Lincoln's Birthday expires and must be renewed. The district has fulfilled the requirements of the waiver applications process and now is seeking Board approval to submit the application. A Public Hearing was held on February 15 and the notices of the hearing were published in the Daily Herald and sent to the state legislators and bargaining units. It is recommended that the Board

authorize the staff to submit an application to the ISBE seeking a renewal of the waiver as presented.

MOTION

Member Bomher moved, Member Intihar seconded to approve the application for a calendar waiver renewal that allows the district to observe the President's Day Holiday rather than Lincoln's Birthday. Upon a voice call vote being taken, all were in favor and **the motion carried.**

Approval of Electric Contract

District 200 is currently under contract with Constellation New Energy, Inc for electricity services under the current Fixed Price Program. Twenty-two of our current contracts are due to expire in May 2006. Constellation New Energy Inc. has been a dependable Retail Electrical Supplier for District 200 since 2003. Prior to that period both the supply and the delivery of electricity was done by Commonwealth Edison and costs would fluctuate often on a month to month basis. By coming to an agreement with Constellation New Energy on a Structured Electricity Supply Option, District 200 has saved substantially over the course of the contract compared to supply rates offered by Commonwealth Edison. Continuing extraordinary customer service has made Constellation New Energy an important partner in District 200's expanding need for affordable energy supply.

With this past performance in mind, Constellation New Energy is providing District 200 with an early opportunity to extend our current agreement at very competitive rates. This is due primarily to the warmest January in 100 years and the favorable rates this weather has created for future consumption. This opportunity would allow us to manage our energy costs during a period of rising energy prices. Because of the districts large energy consumption eight mega-watts, this opportunity is even more attractive.

Since 1997 Commonwealth Edison has had its rates locked. On January 1st 2007 Commonwealth Edison will unlock their rates, and market forces will prevail. CTCs (Customer Transition Charges) will be removed from the current payment structure forcing Commonwealth Edison to seek these costs in other ways which are not locked in putting the average consumer at risk. Market analysis tends to agree that Commonwealth Edison will compensate these charges in higher rates. A Bull market for energy costs is almost certain.

This proposal would enable us to continue our electric service and delivery under the Fixed Price Program for the next twenty-four (24) months, providing price and budget certainty. Our costs for supply would be locked in for this period. Based on current trends, without this agreement, we could expect the delivery energy costs to increase 7 to 15%, or more, in the coming year from Commonwealth Edison. This agreement will allow District 200 and its shareholders the protection it needs in an uncertain and volatile energy market place.

The cost for two years is \$3,202,549. It is recommended that the Board approve the 24 month energy agreement with Constellation New Energy, Inc. for 22 accounts.

MOTION

Member Intihar moved, Member Swanson seconded to approve the 24 month energy agreement

with Constellation New Energy, Inc. for 22 accounts. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

WRITTEN REPORTS

Annual Measurable Achievement Objectives (AMAO)

This report was submitted for information only.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Member Coghill reported that she will be serving on the Indoor Environmental Committee and will be attending her first meeting on March 9.

Member Coghill reported that she recently spoke at the Senior Citizen's Center.

Member Intihar reported that she attended a presentation sponsored by the Regional Office of Education on exercise and the brain. The information was very interesting and supported the need for a strong PE program.

Member Swanson reported that she has been working with an IASB group looking at programs being considered for the fall conference. Member Swanson stated that she noticed several proposals that dealt with getting students involved with district decisions and felt very proud that District 200 has already been doing this in several areas. Another concept that she noticed was the idea of sharing resources with other districts and thought this was an area maybe the Board should consider investigating.

Member Knicker reminded everyone that the WNHS Booster Auction is March 18 at the Carlisle. Both high school booster clubs do an outstanding job of assisting the schools at all levels and this is a great way to support them.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION/ACTION

Hubble Goal

Superintendent Search

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Regular Meeting – March 22, 2006 – Lowell Elementary School

MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Slater moved, Member Intihar seconded to suspend the rules and adjourn the meeting to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Personnel Issues 5ILCS 1202(c)(1) and Potential Land Acquisition 5ILCS 120/2(c)(5). 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 8:53 PM.

Action is expected following the Closed Session.

MOTION

Member Swanson 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 10:05 PM.

MOTION

Member Swanson moved, Member Slater seconded to approve the Resolution Authorizing Notice to Remedy to employee R2005-06-01. 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 Intihar moved, Member Knicker 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 10:12 PM.

Barbara Intihar, Secretary

Andrew Johnson, President