

MINUTES
REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
March 9, 2005

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 North High School, One Falcon Way, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Andrew Johnson, on Wednesday, March 9, 2005, at 7:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Ms. Jill Bullo led the Board and community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH THE HOST SCHOOL

Ms. Jill Bullo, principal of Wheaton North High School, welcomed the Board of Education and community to Wheaton North High School. Ms. Bullo thanked the Booster Club for all of their efforts, especially the recently held auction. Members of the WNHS Performance in the Round Ensemble performed their piece that earned them 4th place in the State Competition.

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

RECOGNITIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The WWSHS Speech Team was honored.

President Johnson stated that there will be a candidate's forum at WNHS on March 14 sponsored by the PTA and a forum on March 10 at the Wheaton Community Center sponsored by the League of Women Voters.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Catalani reported the following:

- The State Board of Education has given two of our schools Academic Excellence Awards. Whittier and Wiesbrook schools earned the award because 90 percent of their students met or exceeded the state learning standards for the last three years and both schools made Adequate Yearly Progress as defined by the No Child Left Behind Legislation. Congratulations to Whittier Principal Joanne Hall, Wiesbrook Principal Dianne Thornburg and their students, teachers and staff.
- WWSHS's symphonic band placed second overall and was awarded the best percussion specialty award at the 2005 Midwest Band Festival. Drafting students at WWS won the regional I.D.E.A. Drafting Competition and now move on to the state competition in April. WWS students finished first and second in the Architectural Board Division.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Acceptance of Gift to Jefferson Preschool – Recommend the acceptance of the gift of \$100 from the Junior League of Kane and DuPage Counties, Inc. in the name of State Representative Randall Hultgren as presented.
2. Acceptance of Gift to WWSHS – Recommend the acceptance of the gifts of microphones to WWSHS from PAWS as presented.
3. Approval of WWSHS & WNHS Phase II Project Change Orders – Recommend the approval of the change orders as presented.
4. Approval to Post Revisions to Policy 6.300, Graduation Requirements – Recommend the approval to post revisions to the policy consistent with changes in the law as presented.
5. Appointment of Auditor for the 2005 Fiscal year – Recommend the appointment of Wm. F. Gurrie & Co. as the auditor for the 2005 fiscal Year and the acceptance of the proposal for audit services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2005 as presented.
6. Approval of Bills Payable and Payroll – Recommend the approval of the bills payable and payroll as presented.
7. Approval of Minutes – February 9 Closed, February 23 Open - Recommend the approval of the minutes as presented. The Closed Session minutes will remain closed.
8. Approval of Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports – Recommend the approval of the Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports as presented.

MOTION

Member Knicker moved, Member Swanson 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.**

Dr. Catalani stated that the action taken to approve the Supplemental Personnel Report included the hiring of two new administrators. Effective immediately, Tim Callahan is the new Principal at Johnson Elementary School and effective July 1, Kelly Wieczorek will be the new Principal at Bower Elementary School. Dr. Catalani introduced both administrators to the Board and community.

ACTION ITEMS

Item 9 – Approval of Compressor Bid for Edison Middle School

As part of the regular inspections, it was reported there was a ground short malfunction in Compressor Unit A, which caused burnout of the compressor motor windings and damaged electrical contractors. Also, it was reported there were potential problems in Compressor Unit B. As a preventive maintenance measure, staff requested that Unit B be inspected, repaired and tested for potential problems that could cause the compressor to burn out and subsequently cause the same situation as in Unit A. The project was bid and based on the bid tabulation and review, staff recommends the base bid of Oak Brook Mechanical Services in the amount of \$29,237.

MOTION

Member Slater moved, Member Bomher seconded to approve the bid from Oak Brook Mechanical Services in the amount of \$29,237 for the compressor repairs at Edison Middle School. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Item 10 – Approval of Summer School Program

Staff is recommending that the 2005 Summer School program be structured similar to the 2004 program. High school students will attend the College of DuPage High School Summer School Program. Scholarships will be made available for those students that meet the established requirements of financial hardship and replacement classes needed for graduation. Driver Education will be offered, however, due to construction at the two high schools, the program will only be offered at one site. The cost of the course will remain \$250. Mini-courses, Band, Applied Technology and Special Education classes will be offered at Monroe Middle School. Jefferson will also house special education classes. These classes will be in session four days a week, Tuesday through Friday. In 2004, classes were held Monday through Thursday. In view of the fact that the July 4th holiday is on Monday this year, offering classes Tuesday through Friday will maintain better continuity of class instruction. The mini-courses, band and applied technology classes will run from June 14 through July 8, 2005. The special education classes will run from June 14 through July 21 due to Illinois state rules and regulations requiring twenty days of direct instruction with students in order for the district to be financially reimbursed. It is recommended that the Board approve the 2005 summer school program and fee schedule as presented.

MOTION

Member Intihar moved, Member Coghill seconded to approve the 2005 Summer School Program and fee schedule as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Item 11 – Approval to Waive the Reading of the Full text of the Refunding Bond Resolution & Escrow Resolution

The resolutions to sell Refunding School Bonds and the resolution Authorizing and Directing the Execution of an Escrow Agreement state that the entire resolution be read aloud. Given the length of the documents and the time required to read both in their entirety, Board of Education are afforded the opportunity to waive the reading. It is recommended that the Board waive the reading of both documents.

MOTION

Member Slater moved, Member Knicker seconded to approve waiving the reading of the Resolution for the Issue of Refunding School Bonds, Series 2005 and the Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Execution of the Escrow Agreement. Upon a voice call vote being taken, all were in favor and **the motion carried 7-0.**

Item 12 – Adoption of a Resolution Providing for the Issue of Refunding School Bonds, Series 2005

There have been recent changes in the bond market that have provided an opportunity to the District to generate savings by refinancing the outstanding Series 1999 Bonds. These market changes have included a reduction in long-term interest rates, coupled with an increase in short-term rates. As a result, the district could generate savings to the taxpayers of approximately \$1 million. The resolution has been prepared and reviewed by Chapman & Cutler, the district bond counsel, and by Bill Hepworth, the bond underwriter. This resolution will allow the district to refund approximately \$15,700,000 of prior debt. By refunding these bonds, the district will be able to generate substantial savings. The final dollar amount to be refunded may vary slightly given the timing of the issuance of the bonds. The Board is being asked to adopt a parameters resolution since the bonds have not yet been sold. The parameters include a minimum 3% present value savings and that transactions take place prior to April 4, 2005. Furthermore, the underwriter will require approval of the Board President, Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent of Business Operations prior to the sale.

President Johnson stated that pursuant to Article 19 of the School Code, the Board of Education would consider the adoption of the resolution providing for the issue of said bonds and levy of a direct annual tax sufficient to pay the principal and interest thereon.

MOTION

Member Bomher moved, Member Intihar seconded to adopt the resolution providing for the Issue of Refunding School Bonds, Series 2005. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Dr. Catalani stated that this action would not generate any new funds to the district. It purely lowers the interest rate to save money over the life of the debt and does not extend the terms of the debt.

Item 13 – Adoption of a Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Execution of an Escrow Agreement

IF the Board approves the resolution to refund existing debt and sell School Refunding Bonds, the Board must adopt a Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Execution of an Escrow Agreement. The resolution has been prepared and reviewed by bond counsel Chapman & Cutler and the district's bond underwriter, Bill Hepworth. This resolution will allow the district to place a portion of refunded bond proceeds into an interest bearing account at Wells Fargo Bank. The proceeds in that account would then be used to pay back prior debt. It is recommended that the Board approve the Resolution Authorizing and Directing the Execution of an Escrow Agreement.

MOTION

Member Bomher moved, Member Intihar seconded to approve the Resolution Authorizing and

Directing the Execution of an Escrow Agreement. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Item 14 – Approval of Stakeholder Survey

One of the Board's high priority goals for 2004-05 is the development of a new vision and mission statement to help guide future planning a decision making. One of the activities listed under that goal is the development and administration of a survey designed to get feedback regarding community expectations for its public schools. Unicom•Arc, a St. Louis based attitude research company, has submitted a proposal to develop a survey. The survey will include demographic information, several of the same questions asked in a prior referendum survey in order to track responses, questions that the Board wishes included, and questions related to the information obtained from the focus groups. The survey development will occur after a contract is approved and the survey will be conducted in late March/early April with results delivered to the Board in late April/early May. It is recommended that the Board approve the contract with Unicom•Arc as presented.

MOTION

Member Slater moved, Member Intihar seconded to approve the contract with Unicom•Arc for the development and administration of a community survey. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Member Knicker reported that he had read a recent article about the school district in Palm Springs, CA suing the state over the requirements of NCLB and AYP. Member Knicker stated that he thinks it will be interesting to follow this story. There was a discussion about the affect of measuring schools on one test alone. Member Swanson stated that she read information from the NSBA that indicated some changes to NCLB being considered by the federal legislators. Member Intihar stated that the IASB is trying to stress student learning not simply student achievement.

There was a discussion regarding the cost to transport students that chose to change schools because of AYP.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION/ACTION

In order for District 200 to continue to strive for higher levels of greatness, the Board of Education adopted the following high priority goals:

- Renew the District's Vision/Mission Statement to Reflect the Beliefs and Values of the Entire School Community
- Develop a Long-term Financial Plan that is Consistent with the Renewed Vision/Mission Statement
- Continue Implementation of the Board's Decision to Build a New Middle School in the Southwest Part of the District

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Regular Meeting – March 23 – Bower Elementary School

Member Swanson announced that the Building Community Character group is hosting a meeting that all community members are invited to attend. The topic will be developing character through sports.

Dr. Catalani requested that a Board member volunteer to serve on a committee comprised of administrators, staff, students and parents to look at the food service for the commons areas at the high schools. Member Coghill will serve on this committee.

MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Bomher moved, Member Knicker seconded to suspend the rules and adjourn the meeting to closed session for the purpose of discussing Personnel Issues 5ILCS 120/2(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 8:35 PM.

Ken Knicker, Secretary

Andrew Johnson, President