

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
April 25, 2007

The second regular meeting of the month of April of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, was called to order at Sandburg Elementary School, 1345 Jewel Road, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Andrew Johnson, on Wednesday, April 25, 2007, at 7:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

Board Members: Andrew Johnson
 Rosemary Swanson
 Marie C. Slater
 Barbara Intihar (arrived at 7:35)
 Joann Coghill
 John Bomher
 Ken Knicker

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Member Slater led the Board and community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMUNICATION WITH HOST SCHOOL

Aaron Bacon, Principal of Sandburg School, welcomed the Board, administration and community to Sandburg School. Mr. Bacon congratulated the newly re-elected Board members and stated he is looking forward to working with the Board and new Superintendent Richard Drury as the district continues the efforts in “Inspiring in Everyone a Passion to Excel”. Mr. Bacon thanked Dr. Catalani for his leadership, “can do” attitude, and his continuous focus on kids – all kids. Mr. Bacon stated it has been an honor to grow under Dr. Catalani’s leadership.

RECOGNITIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

The New 200 Foundation gave three teachers the Distinguished Teacher Award. The recipients, nominated by students, were elementary teacher Dan Cerny, middle school teacher Carl Francik, and high school teacher Bette Klein.

Ms. Jill Bullo, Principal of WNHS, introduced the WNHS Speech Team and their Assistant Coach, Ed Klemm. The team placed 3rd in state, which is the best finish for the school in 44 years.

Ms. Jill Bullo, Principal of WNHS, introduced the WNHS Scholastic Bowl Team and their coaches, Phyllis Kidd and Susan Martin. The team placed 2nd in state.

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

PUBLIC COMMENT

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	Pam Nielsen
Topic	Congratulations to Re-elected Board Members

Speaker	Dean Annen
Topic	R-rated Movie Policy

Speaker	Mark O. Stern
Topic	Bus Contract

Speaker	Doug Slager
Topic	Spending \$2 million before referendum

Speaker	Mary Ann Uhen
Topic	PTA

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Catalani reported the following:

- The action report on the bus contract has been bid twice over the last 7 years. In 2000, Laidlaw was the only bidder. In 2002-03, bids were sent to 8 vendors and they were each personally contacted and encouraged to submit a bid. The district even offered the opportunity to bid on smaller parts of the contract, for instance just elementary or just high school routes. The proposals that the vendors offered would not work for the district and Laidlaw offered to extend the contract for a 2.5% increase, which was less than the CPI. This year staff is recommending a one year extension of the Laidlaw contract. The district knows they would be the only bidder, and therefore they could submit any price and the district would have no options. Because of the good relationship that has been developed with Laidlaw, they are willing to extend the contract for an increase of 2.5%. This represents approximately 1% below the CPI over the last 3 years. Extending this contract is just good business.
- For several years there have been conversations regarding Hubble and the community has heard lots of information. Some of the information has been true, some of it has been partially true and some of it has been just plain false. Staff has prepared a PowerPoint and a document of all of the issues that have been brought up and provided a response to each one. Dr. Catalani showed a portion of the PowerPoint to demonstrate examples of the information contained in the report. The report includes responses from the experts in each of the areas and lists them in a fact/myth format.

Member Swanson thanked Mr. Stern for his congratulatory remarks and stated that she does not necessarily agree with Mr. Stern's comments regarding the vote of the community and whether it speaks to the Hubble issue. Member Swanson believes the Board needs to have a discussion on what happens to the current Hubble site. Dr. Catalani stated that he has spoken with Mayor Elect Mike Gresk and they will be meeting soon to discuss this issue.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval to Establish Last Day of School – Recommend that the last day of school be set as June 6, 2007 as stated in the adopted school calendar.
2. Approval of Appointment of Auditor – Fiscal Year June 30, 2007 – Recommend the appointment of Virchow Krause & Company as the District auditor and accept the proposal for audit services for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2007 at a cost of \$29,100.
3. Approval of High School Change Order – Recommend the approval of the change orders as presented.
4. Approval to Post High School Textbooks – Recommend the approval to post the textbooks as presented for public review and comment until May 25, 2007 at the public libraries in Carol Stream, Winfield, Wheaton, and Warrenville and at the SSC.
5. Approval of HS Curriculum Posted on March 14, 2007 – Recommend the approval of the curriculum as presented and posted. No comments were received regarding this curriculum.
6. Approval of IHSA Annual Membership – Recommend the approval to renew the membership of both high schools in the IHSA as presented.
7. Approval of Surety Bond Coverage for Construction Fund Bond – Recommend the approval of the surety bond as presented.
8. Appointment of the Treasurer and Approval of the Treasurer's Bond – Recommend the approval of the resolution to appoint Maureen Zyburt as the Treasurer for the district and approve the treasurer's bond as presented.
9. Approval of Treasurer's Bond Coverage – Recommend the binding coverage with Lloyds of London as presented.
10. Approval of Minutes – April 4, 2007 Open & Closed - Recommend the approval of the minutes as presented. The Closed Session minutes will remain closed.
11. Approval of Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports – Recommend the approval of the Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports as presented.

MOTION

Member Slater moved, Member Bomher seconded to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6 (Slater, Bomher, Coghill, Intihar, Swanson, Johnson), NAY 0, Abstain 1 (Knicker). **The motion carried 6-0-1.**

Dr. Catalani explained that the setting of the last day of school is done annually. The district is required to have 176 days of attendance. District 200's calendar is 178 days and the district used 2 snow days this year. Therefore, the district does not need to use the contractual days and the calendar can stand as adopted with the last day of school being June 6.

ACTION ITEMS

Extension of Transportation Contract

District 200 is in the final year of a two-year contract extension for district transportation. The contract is with Laidlaw Transit, Inc. By Illinois School Code, the district can elect to extend the

contract beyond the two-year extension, on a year-to-year basis by mutual agreement of the parties. However, this year-to-year extension cannot occur if a school board receives a timely request from another interested contractor that a contract be let by bid. To date, we have not received any such requests. Laidlaw Transit, Inc. has presented a proposal for extending the contract for one additional year. The proposal calls for an annual increase of 2.75%. The increase is based on the actual rate cost. The Consumer Price Index (CPI) for the 2006 levy was set at 3.4% and for the 2007 levy at 2.5%. Since the contractual year for contractual services is affected by both levy years, we believe the 2.75% increase reflects a fair change and is favorable for the district. The cost of the extension is projected to be \$7.4 million. It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the contract with Laidlaw Transit, Inc. for a one-year extension as presented.

MOTION

Member Intihar moved, Member Coghill seconded to approve the contract with Laidlaw Transit, Inc. for a one-year extension as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

DISCUSSION ITEM

Building Design & Bid Documents

Bovis Contract Extension

The Board discussed these two topics. Patrick Brosnan of Legat Architects responded to questions from the Board members. The Board will vote on these two proposals at the May 9, 2007 meeting.

The Board will discuss timeline and needs before the district can put a referendum on the ballot.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Mr. Knicker stated that he believes the Board needs to do a better job of communication with the community. Mr. Knicker suggested the Public Comment portion of the meeting be changed to allow 4 minutes per speaker and eliminate the yielding of time to give a speaker additional minutes to speak so that the Board can hear from more individuals. Mr. Knicker also suggested that each meeting have 2 sessions of Public Comment; one at the beginning of the meeting for comments on agenda items and one at the end of the meeting for non-agenda items. Mrs. Intihar stated that she too has had similar thoughts on this issue, including the possibility of having a less formal setting with more dialogue in a deliberate setting away from the business meeting. Mr. Knicker and Mrs. Intihar, with the help of Mary Lou Sender, will research what other districts do and bring suggestions to the May 23 Board meeting for changes to the current process.

Member Slater reported that the district led a presentation at the recent National School Board conference. The presentation was very well received by a standing room only crowd. Staff did a great job of presenting and teacher Lynn Miller did an outstanding job. The teachers of District 200 should be proud of the way she represented them.

Member Coghill reported that she recently attended the IEQ Committee meeting. This committee will be bringing a proposed policy change to the Board in the near future. Member Coghill also met with the ELL teachers. This group is working hard on the best transition plan for these students as they move through the school system.

Member Swanson reminded the Board that they need to appoint a Board member to the IASB Governing Board. Member Swanson would be willing to accept the reappointment.

Member Swanson reported that the Board has been assigned the decorating of a boy's bathroom for the Post Prom Celebration. The theme is Niagara Falls and Mrs. Swanson is looking for volunteers to help create, set-up and take-down the decorations.

The Warrenville Prayer Breakfast will be held on May 3.

Member Intihar thanked Denie Young and the graphic artist for the new banner with the district's new logo and Mission and Vision Statements that was displayed at the meeting. This banner will be at all Board meetings and the schools will all be receiving a smaller paper version for their buildings.

Member Intihar reported on the R-rated Movies Committee. The committee has collected input from students and staff and will meet again in a week to get input from community members. This is a very difficult topic to tackle, but Mrs. Intihar believes the committee will come back with a good plan.

Mr. Farley reminded the Board that the Wheaton Park District grand opening and ribbon cutting ceremonies will be held at the two high school fitness facilities on Saturday, April 28.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Regular Meeting – May 9, 2007 – Longfellow Elementary School
- Special Closed Session – May 2 – SSC with Dr. Drury and John Cassel from the IASB

CLOSED SESSION

None

MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Coghill moved, Member Bomher 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 to 9:35 PM.

Barbara Intihar, Secretary

Andrew Johnson, President