

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
September 12, 2007

The first regular meeting of the month of September of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, was called to order at Monroe Middle School, 1855 Manchester Road, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Andrew Johnson, on Wednesday, September 12, 2007, at 7:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

Board Members: Andrew Johnson
 Rosemary Swanson
 Barbara Intihar (arrived at 8:00 PM)
 John Bomher
 Ken Knicker
 Joann Coghill
 Marie Slater

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

Police Chief Field led the Board and community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC HEARING

MOTION

Member Swanson moved, Member Slater seconded to open the Public Hearing on the 2007-08 Budget. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Mr. Bill Farley reported that the proposed budget has been on display since August 8, 2007 at the libraries in Wheaton, Warrenville, Winfield and Carol Stream, at the SSC and on the district web site. No written comments have been received.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Speaker	Mark O. Stern
Topic	Proposed Budget and Impact of Teacher Salaries

There was discussion about the potential impact of the State budget on the district's proposed budget. Mr. Farley reported that if the foundation level increase is voted into effect, it will have a substantial positive impact on the district. However, the district's general state aid will have a

negative impact on the district because of declining enrollment and poor attendance figures in District 200.

Mr. Farley stated that part of the percentage increase to teacher salaries includes the compensation package. Health insurance increases hurt the district budget as well. The district was very open during the contract negotiations about the increase associated with teachers moving over on the salary schedule. The base salary schedule increased 3.2% for the 2007 school year as reported. The total impact of the contract with employee increases from moving over on the salary schedule and the increase in insurance is 6.8% as was always reported.

MOTION

Member Bomher moved, Member Knicker seconded to close the Public Hearing on the 2007-08 Budget. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Dr. Drury reported that a Charette was held within the community on September 8. This session was sponsored by the Wheaton Chamber of Commerce. Participants included representatives from the City of Wheaton, Wheaton Park District, CUSD 200, The DuPage Homeownership Center and the North East Illinois Chapter of the American Institute of Architects. The purpose of the session was to develop ideas for the use of the current Hubble property. Mr. Paul Colgan, Chair of the Hubble Alternate Use Subcommittee, reported that approximately 50 people from the community and local businesses attended the session. All participants had the opportunity to give their opinion on the topic and at the end of the round table discussions, each group reached a consensus on some design concepts. There were five different plans developed, but they all had a common theme on the use of the space and land. The Hubble Alternate Use Subcommittee will meet to review the results and will come to the Board at a later meeting to deliver a formal presentation.

Members Swanson and Coghill participated in the Charette as Board representatives. Member Swanson stated that she was very impressed with the process and the energy that was present at the session. The group represented a great cross-section of people in diverse groups. This was truly a visioning exercise where the groups discussed the potentials out there for this property. There was a large pool of very talented volunteers. Member Coghill stated that the volunteer architects from the community really listed to the participants. Member Coghill believes that if the excitement level during this process can be maintained local developers will get excited and the value of the property will go up. Dr. Drury stated that there seemed to be a strong interest among the participants to maintain some green space and include field space. The architects will now take the ideas from the Charette and develop a final design concept to present to the participating groups.

Dr. Drury reported that the District received official notification from the Illinois Protection Agency (IEPA) regarding their review of the tests completed on the proposed site for a new middle school. The site was cleared of any environmental hazards and deemed to be safe for any purpose, including a school, day care facility or health facility. This letter from the IEPA states that there is "no further remediation" needed on this property. Dr. Drury introduced Mr. Jim Vroman. Mr. Vroman, an attorney with the law firm Jenner & Block, has been representing District 200 in the environmental concerns raised about the proposed site for a new middle school. Mr. Vroman explained that this land received approval for "residential land use", which is the highest standard with the most stringent requirements the IEPA has for land use. This

evaluation by the IEPA was done on the site in its current condition without any remediation. This assessment by the IEPA confirms that the proposed new middle school site meets or exceeds all environmental safety standards and would not have any negative impact on students or staff. This report was the final step necessary for the Board to take action on a referendum question.

Dr. Drury provided the Board and audience with an explanation of events surrounding the storm that occurred on August 23. Dr. Drury apologized to the community and Board for his decision to release middle school students that put children in harms way. Dr. Drury stated that he takes full responsibility for what happened. There has been quite a bit of criticism of our principals, especially Dr. Wayne Spsychala. Dr. Drury takes exception to this criticism because they acted on decisions made in the superintendent's office. Dr. Drury also stated that he believes that the decisions were made with the information available at the time. District 200 did not receive any notification of the severe storm warning until 3:15 PM. Therefore, the decision to release middle school students was made with the information that was available at that time. Dr. Drury has asked Dr. Lori Belha, Assistant Superintendent, to investigate why the district was not notified, and Dr. Belha presented an explanation of the emergency warning systems as well as her extensive contacts with the various agencies responsible for disseminating the warning notifications. In her report, clearly, the District, as well as the Police Department and surrounding school districts, did not receive a report on the tornado until after it had passed the community. The Superintendent described a variety of steps that the district is taking in reviewing its procedures to improve its information collecting abilities.

COMMUNICATIONS WITH HOST SCHOOL

Dr. Wayne Spsychala, Principal of Monroe Middle School, welcomed the Board, administration and community to Monroe. Dr. Spsychala thanked the Board of Education for their time to the district throughout the school year. Dr. Spsychala recognized members of the Monroe staff that were in attendance at the meeting. Dr. Spsychala stated that he never meant to put any students in harms way during the August 23 storm and thanked the community members that went out of their way to help students get to safety during the storm.

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

None.

RECOGNITIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

President Johnson reminded the community of the N.E.W. 200 Foundation Fun Run to be held on September 23 at WWSHS. This foundation raises money that is used directly to enhance programs for District 200 students. More information is available on the foundations web site at www.new200foundation.org.

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	Penny Walker
Topic	Storm & Bus 10

Speaker	Ralph Heatherington (with minutes from Linda Pille)
Topic	Hubble
Speaker	Mary Ann Uhen
Topic	WWPTAC Capital Expenditures
Speaker	Colleen Weissman
Topic	Storm
Speaker	Gregory Sekowski
Topic	Actions/Changes to Policy as Result of Storm
Speaker	Mark Rissman
Topic	R-rated Movie Policy
Speaker	Svetlana Schultz
Topic	Storm & Bus 10
Speaker	Alicia Drabik
Topic	Storm & Bus 10
Speaker	Charles Pfeister (with minutes form Kathleen Pfeister)
Topic	Vending Contract
Speaker	Tracy Vought
Topic	Storm
Speaker	Janine Ford
Topic	R-rated Movie Policy
Speaker	Mark O. Stern
Topic	Referendum
Speaker	Lisa Rozwat
Topic	Storm
Speaker	Debbie Pederson
Topic	R-rated Movie Policy

REPORTS TO THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Acceptance of Gifts from the PTA – Recommend the acceptance of the gifts from the PTA’s of District 200 as presented.
2. Approval and Removal of Serious Safety Hazard Bus Routes – Recommend the approval of serious safety hazard bus routes and the removal of indicated routes as presented.
3. Approval of Parent Mentor Grant Project – Recommend the approval of the Parent Mentor Grant Project as presented.

4. Approval of Bills Payable and Payroll – Recommend the approval of bills payable and payroll as presented.
5. Approval of Minutes – August 22, 2007 Open & Closed - Recommend the approval of the minutes as presented. The Closed Session minutes will remain closed.
6. Approval of Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports – Recommend the approval of the Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports as presented.

MOTION

Member Intihar moved, Member Knicker 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

Approval of Revisions to Policy 6.210, Instructional Materials

This policy was brought to the Board of Education at a previous meeting. Because of changes made to the posted policy after listening to comments from concerned citizens and re-evaluation by the committee, the modified policy was re-posted for an additional 30 days. Through this re-evaluation, it has become apparent that additional changes are needed to the Administrative Regulations to further clarify the process required for the showing of R-rated movies or clips. It is recommended that the Board approve Policy 6.210. Staff will continue to modify the Administrative Regulations associated with this policy and report back to the Board regarding the changes that are made.

The Board discussed the proposed policy and the changes that will be made to the Administrative Regulations. Dr. Sorrick reported that as staff has begun applying the rules and regulations of the revised policy, issues have surfaced that require changes. Dr. Sorrick also reported that staff is working with legal counsel to address some concerns that have surfaced regarding copyright laws. Dr. Drury reported that the two high school principals are aware of the expectations surrounding this policy. President Johnson requested that the rules and regulations be as specific as possible so that future administrators and Boards of Education can clearly see the intention of this policy.

MOTION

Member Slater moved, Member Intihar seconded to approve revisions to Policy 6.210 as posted and presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6 (Slater, Intihar, Bomher, Knicker, Swanson, Johnson), NAY 1 (Coghill). **The motion carried 6-1.**

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Member Intihar thanked the WWSHS Tiger Marching Band for the invitation to see the new marching band uniforms at the WNHS Band Fest on September 22.

Member Knicker asked when the technology plan report will be delivered. Staff reported that the tech steering committee will be meeting on October 15 at 2:00 to finalize the plan and report. President Johnson stated that an additional Board representative is needed for the steering committee. Member Coghill volunteered to be the representative.

Board members were reminded to register for the September 19 IASB DuPage Division Dinner Meeting. The meeting will be held at WWSHS and members can register online for this meeting. Member Swanson requested that Board members arrive early if possible to serve as greeters.

Member Swanson encouraged Board members to read an article in the recent NSBA newsletter regarding AP enrollment.

Member Knicker encouraged Board members to read an article in the recent NSBA newsletter regarding saving money on special education litigation. Mrs. Knicker reported that District 200 has not spent any money on litigation in the past three years because of the work that has been done with our teachers and through the work of our Parent Mentor to reach agreements through collaboration.

Member Slater stated that she recently returned from an NSBA conference in Alaska. One of the topics was regarding student involvement with the Board of Education. Member Slater distributed a brochure to the Board members about this topic. Dr. Drury reported that he has spoken with both high school principals about this topic and with Board permission will arrange for a student representative from each high school to attend the Board meetings and report news about things going on in the two high schools. The Board agreed with this idea and the student representatives will begin attending in October.

Dr. Bob Rammer, Director of Communications, reported that the district will have a table at the Wheaton Autumn Fest September 15 and 16. Board members are invited to stop in and spend some time at the booth. Anyone interested in signing up for a time slot should contact Dr. Rammer.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Technology Audit

Public Comment Procedures

Results of the Charette Session

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Next Regular Meeting – September 26, 2007 – Lincoln Elementary School

MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Intihar moved, Member Slater 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 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.**

No action is expected following the Closed Session.

The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 9:58 PM.

Barbara Intihar, Secretary

Andrew Johnson, President