

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
December 8, 2010

The first regular meeting of the month of December of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, was called to order at Pleasant Hill Elementary School, 1N220 Pleasant Hill, Winfield, IL, by Board Vice President Rosemary Swanson, on Wednesday, December 8, 2010, at 7:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

Board Members: Rosemary Swanson
 John Bomher
 Joann Coghill
 Barbara Intihar
 Ken Knicker
 Marie Slater

Absent: Andy Johnson

Also in Attendance: Dr. Brian Harris
 Dr. Lori Belha
 Mrs. Linda Knicker
 Mr. Rodney Mack
 Dr. Robert Rammer
 Dr. Margo Sorrick

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Jen Keeler led the Board and community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE HOST SCHOOL

Mrs. Jen Keeler, Principal of Pleasant Hill Elementary School welcomed the Board, staff and community to the school. Mrs. Keeler shared a PowerPoint presentation to outline the work of the staff this year to enhance their team approach and celebrate their diversity.

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

Dr. Harris requested that an additional item be added to the Recognitions and Achievements portion of the agenda. The Board will also recognize the Co-op Swim Team and Aquatics Foundation.

RECOGNITIONS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

WWSHS Girls' Cross Country

The Board recognized the WWSHS Girls' Cross Country Team for their State 3rd Place Win.

State Special Olympics Bowling

The Board recognized Joseph Adams for taking 6th place in the State Special Olympics in bowling.

Co-op Swim Team/Aquatics Foundation

The President of the Aquatics Foundation presented a check to the District for \$6000. This money was raised by the parent group to defray the costs of the pool rental as was agreed upon last spring during the budget reduction process. The Board recognized the team and the parent group.

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items

None.

SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Harris reported the following:

- The Board of Education and senior staff attended the state school board conference in November. This conference is the one professional development opportunity that is done jointly for staff and the board. Margo Sorrick, Andy Johnson and Dr. Harris conducted a presentation on 21st century learning, Marie Slater and Mary Lou Sender presented to the secretaries on the Board/Secretary Relationship, Lori Belha presented to the secretaries on HR strategies, and Mary Lou Sender and Dr. Harris presented to the secretaries on adapting to a new boss. It was a wonderful conference and District 200 was in the forefront across the state sharing the good work of the district.
 - Member Intihar stated that the Board is very proud of the presentation given by Dr. Sorrick, Dr. Harris and Mr. Johnson. A gentleman in the audience stated that he lived in China and believed that what District 200 is doing is spot on and that the presentation was the best session he attended at the conference.
- Thanksgiving weekend the WWSHS football team took first place in the state in their division. It was a proud moment to be the superintendent of District 200; it was a class act on field, in the stands and across the entire community. The team will be honored at the January Board of Education meeting.
- Dr. Harris attended a Large Unit School District (LUDA) conference with 20 other superintendents. The focus of the meeting was funding. Dr. Harris learned that the funding at the state level is a concern across the entire state. There is speculation about the legislation meeting in Springfield and there is an expectation that some very specific things will happen for education. Some of these possibilities include a state income tax increase and some reform efforts. The CPI will be published in January and after that staff will have better budget projections for next year.
- There will be discussion at this meeting about the Hubble/Central property. The goal is to clarify the district position on the redevelopment and sale of the property. Staff is hoping to get direction from the Board as they meet with potential developers.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Acceptance of a Gift to District 200 – Recommend acceptance of the gift as presented.
2. Acceptance of the Gift to Longfellow School - Recommend acceptance of the gift as presented.
3. Acceptance of a Gift to WWSHS – Recommend acceptance of the gift as presented.
4. Approval of the 2011-12 Calendar – Recommend the approval of the calendar, with the change of making January 2 a non-school day and extending the last day of school to June 6.

5. Approval to Post Revised Policy 7.27 Administering Medicine to Students, for 30 Day Public Review and Comment – Recommend approval to post the revised policy for 30 days for public review and comment.
6. Approval of Proposed Policy 7.285 Food Allergy Management Program – Recommend approval of the policy as posted.
7. Approval of Bills Payable and Payroll – Recommend approval of the bills payable and payroll as presented.
8. Approval of Minutes – November 10, 2010 Open and Closed, and Approval to Destroy the Recordings of Closed Sessions Prior to July 2009 - Recommend that the minutes be approved as presented and the approval to destroy the closed session recordings as permissible by law. The closed session minutes will remain closed.
9. Approval of Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports – Recommend the approval of the Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports as presented.

MOTION

Member Intihar moved, Member Coghill seconded to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Dr. Harris reported that there was a change to the proposed calendar to change January 2 to a non-attendance day in keeping with the federal holiday. This will change the last of school to June 6.

Member Knicker commented on the gifts to the district that were accepted in the Consent Agenda and thanked those that contributed to the schools and supported our students.

ACTION ITEMS

Acceptance of the 2009-2010 Audit Prepared by Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP

Annually, Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLC prepares an independent audit of the financial statements of CUSD 200. They also express an opinion based on the combined financial statements of the District. The Board is asked to accept the independent audit as presented by Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP. Tim Cole from Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP addressed the Board of Education to offer his findings and opinions on the 2009-2010 Audit. It is recommended that the Board of Education accept the 2009-2010 audit of Baker Tilly Virchow Krause, LLP.

Jason Coyle, from the audit group stated that the audit report was clean and unqualified. The recommendation is to continue to adopt a balanced budget and do everything possible to control costs. Mr. Coyle also reviewed their recommendations for controls and procedures. Member Intihar asked how District 200 expenditures compare to other similar districts. Mr. Coyle responded that they are very comparable with staff costs right in line with the recommended 75-80%.

MOTION

Member Bomher moved, Member Slater seconded to accept the 2009-10 audit as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Approval of the 2010 Levy

The school code empowers the Board of Education to levy taxes to support the public school system. This is an annual process. If the tentative levy exceeds 105% of the previous year's aggregate extension a public notice and hearing are needed before the official levy is adopted. At the October 13, 2010 Board Meeting the administration presented the 2010 tentative levy information. The aggregate levy increase reported was 9.64% over the previous Tax Extension for 2009 (excluding debt service). The Board announced the recommended tentative levy and set the Public Hearing as required by law for 7:30 p.m. on November 10, 2010 at Hubble Middle School. The tentative levy has been on display and review for public comment from October 13, 2010 through December 8, 2010. As in the past, the limitations set forth in the tax cap law will restrict the actual extension to the Consumer Price Index (CPI) of 2.7% plus any new growth in the district. The district levy request is greater than the CPI as the new growth associated with the Cantera TIF will impact this levy.

It is recommended that the Board approve the resolution and certificates for the 2010 Tax Levy as presented, that the Certificate of Tax Levy be executed, and that all forms be filed with the County Clerk.

MOTION

Member Intihar moved, Member Knicker seconded to approve the resolution and certificates for the 2010 Tax Levy as presented, that the Certificate of Tax Levy be executed, and that all forms be filed with the County Clerk. Upon a roll call being taken, vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

WRITTEN REPORTS

FOIA Report

FY11 Grant Report

School Improvement Plans

These reports were provided for information only.

ORAL REPORTS

High School Class Rank

Ms. Jill Bullo and Mr. David Claypool presented information on potentially eliminating class rank at the high schools. The PowerPoint presentation that was used will be posted on the District 200 web page.

Dr. Harris stated that the intent is to present this information tonight and bring this topic back to the Board in January for a discussion. Board members are asked to submit questions or requests for information to Dr. Harris in writing so that staff can gather the responses prior to discussion.

Board members discussed this topic and it appeared that the majority support this proposal. This topic will be on the agenda for the January 26 Committee of the Whole for discussion and possible action at the February 9 Board meeting. There was discussion about the timeframe for implementation and different scenarios will be discussed on January 26.

DISCUSSION ITEM

Policy 4.155 – Naming District Facilities

Dr. Harris stated that emails have been received requesting that a building be named in honor of former WNHS graduate Robert J. Miller. Dr. Harris reviewed the Board policy regarding the naming of facilities. The Board discussed the topic and directed staff to investigate possibilities,

gather input from community members and staff and bring back a recommendation if appropriate.

Hubble/Central Property

The Board discussed the disposition of the Hubble/Central property.

Member Swanson stated that the decision to move Hubble was an educational decision in order to have a building designed for middle school students and programs and to position it where the students live. That move resulted in a potential opportunity for new uses of the old site. During the Hubble referendum, the Board stated that the intention was to put the property back onto the tax rolls, proceeds from the sale would be used toward paying down the highest interest bonds, the property would be redeveloped in a way that creates a downtown gateway in keeping with the character of Wheaton and increases the district EAV. A steering committee was formed to consider options and make a recommendation for the best use of the property. A variety of options were considered and at the last meeting, the committee chose a mixed use option. A second option was introduced by a City Councilman to have the property remain public with oversight by the park district. There was no conversation at that meeting about the costs associated with it being reconfigured by the park district, or on the potential lost opportunity costs by keeping it off the tax rolls.

The Board reaffirmed their desire to see the site developed as a property and sales tax generating parcel. Anything less would be contrary to what the community was promised during the referendum campaign. The Board reinforced that they appreciate the cooperative spirit the City and Park District have evidenced in the process to date. The Board gave direction to staff to obtain an updated property appraisal and to obtain guidance from legal counsel on how the Board and district should move forward to get the property on the market. The Board would like to see a cost benefit analysis that indicates the cost of keeping the property public versus developing the space. Dr. Harris will compose and send a letter to the City of Wheaton and Mayor Gresk the outlying the intent of the Board to move forward and seeking their cooperation. The letter will be signed by President Johnson and Dr. Harris.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Member Knicker reported that he attended the “Pack the Gym” night at Hubble Middle School where the Special Olympic Basketball team competed against Elgin U46. The evening showcased the team, and was a fund raiser for the Christmas Sharing program.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Resolution to Begin Budget Cycle/Budget Assumptions

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Committee of the Whole Meeting – January 26, 2011

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

January 12, 2011 - WNHS

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items

Vice President Swanson 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	Adrian Roche
Topic	PACE Program

Speaker	Mark O. Stern
Topic	Employee Discipline

Speaker	Samir Desai
Topic	Class Rank

Speaker	Harold Lonks
Topic	Revenue

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 The Purchase or Lease of Real Property 5ILCS 120/2(c)(5), the Setting of a Price For Sale or Lease of Property Owned by the District 5ILCS 120/2(c)(6), and Personnel Items 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1). Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 9:55 PM.

No action is expected following the closed session.

Barbara Intihar, Secretary

Andrew Johnson, President