

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200**  
**February 12, 2014**

The first regular meeting of the month of February of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, was called to order at Lincoln Elementary School, 630 Dawes Avenue, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Barbara Intihar, on Wednesday, February 12, 2014, at 7:30 PM.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

Board Members:        Barbara Intihar  
                              Jim Vroman  
                              Brad Paulsen  
                              Joann Coghill  
                              Jim Gambaiani  
                              Jim Mathieson  
                              Rosemary Swanson

Also in Attendance:  Dr. Brian Harris  
                              Mrs. Faith Dahlquist  
                              Mr. Bill Farley  
                              Mr. Rodney Mack  
                              Mrs. Joanne Panopoulos  
                              Dr. Robert Rammer

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mrs. Kathy DeMarzo led the Board and community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COMMUNICATION WITH THE HOST SCHOOL**

Mrs. Kathy DeMarzo, Principal at Lincoln School, welcomed the Board, administration and community to the School.

**MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None

**RECOGNITIONS & ACHIEVEMENTS**

Mr. Hoor Bhanpuri from the AP College Board recognized the district. This is the fourth year that District 200 has made the AP College Honor Roll.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items**

The opportunity to speak to the Board is provided for members of the public who have a question or comment on an agenda item. The Board appreciates hearing from stakeholders, and values your thoughts and questions. The Board strives to make the best decisions for the District, and public input in a variety of venues is very helpful.

The Board must protect the civility and decorum of this meeting. Please be respectful for the duties of the Board and the democratic process in your comments tonight:

- ⇒ Please use the microphone, state your name and address, and address your comments to the Board
- ⇒ Please limit your comments to 3 minutes.
- ⇒ Please be factual and courteous, and do not include statements that are personally disrespectful or condescending to members of the Board or staff.

If you feel your matter needs to be discussed in more detail, please attend the Board’s “Chance to Chat” or present your comments to us in writing.

Speaker	Pam Nielsen
Topic	B Teams

Speaker	Susan Booton
Topic	Bond Issue

Speaker	Lisa Szudarski
Topic	B Teams

### **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Dr. Harris reported the following:

- The winter weather has been hard on the district. Last weekend there was a water main break at Edison, but school was in session on Monday. As of right now, the last day of school will be June 10. An amended school calendar to set the last day of school will probably be brought to the Board at the April meeting for approval. If the district uses more than 5 emergency days the district will have to apply for an attendance waiver from the state.
- The personnel report for this meeting includes the hiring of four high school assistant principals for next year. Dr. Harris introduced Erin Axelson, Alexia Ellett, Julie Pavlini and Adam Ferguson.
- Dr. Harris attended the Large Unit District Association (LUDA) conference in Springfield last week. Information from that conference regarding PARCC assessment for next year was included in the green folders given to the Board members. Several high school superintendents and Dr. Harris composed and sent a letter to the State Superintendent expressing concerns about the implementation plan for administration of these tests. Dr. Harris will be going back to Springfield with this group of superintendents to meet with the State Superintendent.
- Last spring District 200 conducted the 5 Essentials State Survey as required. Due to many problems with the survey instrument and the reporting of data, District 200 and many other districts have decided not to do the survey again this year. Other topics discussed at the conference include the Ed Funding Advisory Committee work, an update on the Charter School Committee, and upcoming changes to the Affordable Care Act legislation.
- Liz Corry provided an update on the Engage 200 community session and invited all community members to attend the future sessions.

## CONSENT AGENDA

1. Acceptance of Gifts to Lowell Elementary School – Recommend acceptance of the gifts to Lowell School as presented.
2. Acceptance of Gifts to Madison Elementary School – Recommend acceptance of the gifts to Madison Elementary School as presented.
3. Acceptance of the Gifts from Edison PTA – Recommend acceptance of the gifts from Edison PTA as presented.
4. Approval of Geometry and Algebra II Standards – Recommend approval of the standards as presented and posted.
5. Approval of Compressor and Installation Project Bid, WWSHS – Recommend approval of the bid as presented.
6. Approval of EnerNOC Emergency Load Response Program Agreement – Recommend approval of the agreement as presented.
7. Approval of Resolution to Transfer Funds from Working Cash Fund to Illinois Municipal Retirement Fund – Recommend approval of the transfer of funds as presented.
8. Approval of Bills Payable and Payroll – Recommend approval of the bills payable and payroll as presented.
9. Approval of Minutes – January 8, 2014 Open and Closed, January 22, 2014 Open, and Approval to Destroy the Recordings of Closed Sessions Prior to September 2012 as Allowable by Law - 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.
10. Approval of Personnel Report to Include Employment, Resignation, Retirement and Leave of Absence of Administrative, Certified, Classified and Non-Union Staff. Recommend the approval of the Personnel Report as presented.

## MOTION

Member Vroman moved, Member Paulsen 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 to Deny Fee Waiver Request of Developer Donations – STAR Family Services

This item was removed from the agenda because the developer withdrew the request.

### Approval of the Modifications to the Board Operating Principles

After the January 8, 2014 Board Self-Evaluation Workshop, it was suggested that the Operating Principles be modified to include some additional statements. President Intihar and Member Vroman revised the Operating Principles document. It is recommended that the Board approve the Modifications to the Board Operating Principles as presented.

## MOTION

Member Vroman moved, Member Coghill seconded to approve the modifications to the Board Operating Principles. Upon a roll call being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

## DISCUSSION ITEM

### Fund Balance/Bond Issuance

Dr. Harris stated that at the last Board meeting there was discussion about whether to issue the full \$10 million or issue a smaller amount, or consider a combination of bonds and fund balance.

Discussion centered on the following topics:

- Changes to the fund balance policy
- Due to the financial situation the capital projects funds have to come from bonds because the current revenue does not allow the district to have the money for the projects. This will be a constant battle for the district.
- A recent Civic Federation report addressed the effective tax rates from 2001-2010 and mentioned Wheaton as having the smallest rate increase in the metropolitan area. This finding points to the frugal work of this board and previous boards.
- The change in the fund balance policy is to make the wording and practice consistent with the reporting to the state.
- A long term plan is to be memorialized to refinance the bonds when the time is appropriate.
- The district will always have debt and the district and community need to accept that fact. Aging buildings will always need work.
- Debt restructuring needs to happen to address the long term costs.
- Need to work towards designating funds for capital projects and technology.
- During the bond process there was a rating review of the finances and the S&P rating is now changed from stable to positive. This is partially due to the fund balance policy and balanced budgets.

There will be a special Board meeting on February 26, 2014 prior to the Committee of the Whole meeting beginning at 7:00 PM for the purpose of approving the bond resolution and a resolution to memorialize the intent to refinance the current debt. The change to the fund balance policy will be posted at the March 12 Board meeting for public review and comment and then brought to the April meeting for adoption.

The Board is in agreement with the recommendation for the issuance of \$10 million in bonds. There is still more work that needs to be done at the facilities. Board members expressed an interest in using any grant money that is obtained to help fund any of the approved projects to help pay for additional facility work that is on the list of recommendations.

#### Middle School Co-Curricular Programs

Dr. Harris recapped the previous discussions on this topic and reported that the recommendation of staff is to no include B Sports in the 2014-15 budget and shared the rationale for this recommendation.

Board members thanked the parents for their efforts on this topic. All Board members expressed how difficult this decision is. Dr. Harris stated that if this is added in it will be addition by subtraction and a decision would have to be made as what should be cut from the budget to add this in.

There was discussion about looking for other funding options and all were in agreement that this cannot be looked at in isolation; it must be a component of the education process.

It was pointed out that the parent survey asked if they supported B Sports but it did not ask what they would be willing to give up to bring B Sports back. District 200 has less money to spend per student than many of our surrounding districts. One of the problems is that if something else is cut to reinstate B Sports another group will be coming to the Board with a different topic with the same theme.

Dr. Harris suggested that the Board consider a goal for next year to evaluate the entire co-curricular program and see where changes can be made. Dr. Harris supports a strategic approach and look at the revenue stream but still recommends that it not be included in the 2014-15 budget. The fee schedule for next year will be brought to the Board in March without an increase in co-curricular fees.

## **WRITTEN REPORTS**

### Monthly Financial Reports

### FOIA Report

These reports were provided for information only.

## **REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

Member Mathieson attended a meeting and the WNHS Speech Team performed at the meeting. Member Mathieson was very impressed with the caliber of the students' skills.

Member Mathieson reported that he and Rodney Mack are attending a symposium tomorrow on 1:1 computing.

Member Swanson reminded the Board that the DuPage Division Dinner is March 6 and the topic is also 1:1 computing.

President Intihar reported that she attended an intergovernmental meeting in Carol Stream.

## **TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION**

Technology Integration/Curriculum Updates

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

There will be a special meeting of the Board of Education on Feb. 26, 2014, 7:00 PM

## **NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

February 26, 2014 Committee of the Whole, 7:30 PM - SSC

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items**

President Intihar stated that the opportunity to speak to the Board is provided now for members of the public who have a question or comment on a non-agenda item. The Board appreciates hearing from stakeholders, and values the thoughts and questions presented. The Board strives to make the best decisions for the District, and public input in a variety of venues is very helpful.

As President, I bear the primary responsibility for protecting the civility and decorum of this meeting. In this regard, I request respect for the duties of the Board and the democratic process in your comments tonight:

- ⇒ Please use the microphone and announce your name and address before commenting
- ⇒ Please limit your comments to 3 minutes
- ⇒ Address your comments to the Board
- ⇒ Your comments should be factual and courteous, and should not include statements that are personally disrespectful to members of the Board or staff
- ⇒ Comments that are deemed personally condescending will not be permitted

If you feel your matter needs to be discussed in more detail, please attend the Board’s “Chance to Chat” or present your comments to us in writing.

Speaker	Pam Nielsen
Topic	B Sports

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION**

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Vroman moved, Member Gambaiani seconded to adjourn the meeting to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing the Purchase or Lease of Real Property 5ILCS120/2(c)(5) and Personnel Items 5ILCS120/2(c)(1). No action is expected following the closed session. 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 10:30 PM.

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**Brad Paulsen, Secretary**

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**Barbara Intihar, President**