

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200**  
**March 14, 2012**

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 Wiesbrook Elementary School, 2160 Durfee Road, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Rosemary Swanson, on Wednesday, March 14, 2012, at 7:30 PM.

**ROLL CALL**

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

Board Members:       Rosemary Swanson  
                              Barbara Intihar  
                              Ken Knicker  
                              Joann Coghill  
                              Jim Gambaiani  
                              Andy Johnson ( arrived during Closed Session)  
                              Jim Vroman

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Dr. Brian Turyna led the Board and community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COMMUNICATION WITH THE HOST SCHOOL**

Dr. Turyna welcomed the Board, administration and community to Wiesbrook School and thanked everyone for their support of the school. Dr. Turyna stated that Wiesbrook is using technology to meet the Mission Statement and goals of the district. PTA President Kathy Gotter shared the many ways the Wiesbrook PTA is using technology to communicate with the families. Teacher Matt Sutton showed a video that represented how classrooms are using technology. Mr. Sutton has started a student Tech Club and has created handouts to give teachers tools to integrate technology into the everyday operation of their classrooms. Mr. Sutton stated that he believes learning should be reciprocal – students know more about technology than adults do in most instances and they should be encouraged to share their knowledge. Dr. Turyna thanked the Board and administration for providing the tools to make these things happen.

**MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA**

None.

## **RECOGNITIONS & ACHIEVEMENTS**

National Merit Finalists – Ten high school students (6 from WNHS and 4 from WWSHS) were recognized as National Merit Finalists. One student was also recognized as a 2012 Presidential Scholar Finalist.

National Board Certified Teachers – Eleven District 200 teachers were recognized for receiving National Board Certification, the highest merit available to teachers.

DuPage County IPA Principal of the Year – Jim Roberts from the Illinois Principals’ Association recognized Mrs. Kathy DeMarzo as the DuPage County Principal of the Year.

## **PUBLIC COMMENTS – Agenda Items**

President Swanson stated that while the Board appreciates all questions and comments, it may not be prepared to respond at this meeting. Speakers were asked to confine their comments to three minutes or less. To ensure dignified and respectful presentation of all sides of any issue, it is asked that audience representatives refrain from applause or other expressions of support or opposition to comments being made.

Speaker	Bryan Kadel
Topic	Franklin

Speaker	Brian Wells
Topic	Franklin

Speaker	Jim Malles
Topic	Franklin Boundary Change

Speaker	Tim Whelan
Topic	AP Curriculum

## **SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT**

Dr. Harris reported the following:

- The February 17 and March 2 Teacher Inservice Trainings provided opportunities for teachers to work together. On February 17 the discussion centered on Professional Learning Communities. On March 2, the Common Core Curriculum was introduced to all K-8 teachers. The high school teachers attended workshops across the county designed for their level and subject areas.
- One of the Board Goals this year is to establish financial stability. On the agenda for this meeting, the Board will be approving a policy to establish a fund balance. Dr. Harris commended the Board and staff for their work on developing this policy to provide financial stability. The Board will also take action to approve the auditors for the district which came in below the current rate, the cleaning contract which is being extended with no additional cost, and a resolution to take advantage of a debt reduction that will save the tax payers a considerable amount of money.
- Dr. Harris spent the last two Saturday evenings at the high schools. WNHS Booster Club hosted a fund raiser and WWSHS hosted the Show Choir Extravaganza. Dr. Harris thanked the parents involved with both activities for making the events possible.

## CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval to Post Revised Board Policy 7.360 Student Information for 30 Day Public Review and Comment – Recommend approval to post the policy as presented.
2. Approval to Post High School Career & Technical Education Curriculum for Contemporary Broadcast Media – Recommend the approval to post the curriculum as presented.
3. Approval to Post the AP Environmental Science Curriculum – Recommend approval to post the curriculum as presented.
4. Approval to Adopt Project Lead the Way Program – Recommend approval to adopt the program as presented.
5. Approval of Textbooks for HS Forensics & Anatomy Courses – Recommend approval of the textbooks as presented.
6. Approval of GCA Services Group, Inc. Custodial Contract Renewal – Recommend approval of the contract renewal as presented.
7. Approval of Bills Payable and Payroll – Recommend approval of the bills payable and payroll reports as presented.
8. Approval of Minutes – February 8, 2012 Open and Closed, February 22, 2012 Committee of the Whole, and Approval to Destroy the Recordings of Closed Sessions Prior to October 2010 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.
9. Approval of Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports – Recommend the approval of the Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports as presented.

## MOTION

Member Vroman moved, Member Intihar 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.**

## ACTION ITEMS

### Approval of Proposed Board Policy 4.22, Fund Balance

The Board of Education adopted a goal relative to fiscal policy that provides for long-term financial stability, and identifies benchmarks to measure progress toward financial stability. The Board Finance Committee reviewed the issue of fund balances and the impact it has on the long-term financial health of the school district. It was decided that a policy should be crafted to address fund balances and presented to the full Board for approval. Attached to this report is the final version of a fund balance policy which the committee approved to appropriately address the issue of the district fund balance. The policy clearly sets benchmarks and addresses the definition of district fund balances for the purpose of reaching the desired outcome. The policy was posted for public review and comment and no comments were received. It is recommended that the Board approve the policy as presented.

Member Gambaiani reported that the goal was to establish some parameters that did not exist and to keep the district moving toward the fund balance goal. This is a long term project and will keep the financial status healthy.

## MOTION

Member Coghill moved, Member Knicker seconded to approve Policy 4.22, Fund Balance, as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, Nay 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

### Approval of Auditor

The Business Office prepared a Request for Proposal (RFP) for auditing services. The following time line was established for the RFP process:

Mail Request for Proposals: Week of January 30, 2012  
Deadline for Submission: Thursday, February 16, 2012 - 3:00 P.M.  
Interviews with Finalists  
Finance Committee Review  
Final Interview  
Board of Education Approval: March 14, 2012

RFPs were sent to a total of seventeen (17) vendors, and seven (7) vendors submitted proposals. The four (4) lowest firms (as determined by overall cost) were chosen to be interviewed by staff. Upon completion of the interviews, references were checked on each firm. Staff reviewed the interview process and references with the Board Finance Committee, and two (2) finalists were chosen from the group of four. A final interview was conducted with the two firms chosen which included a Board Member, the Superintendent and staff.

Based on the all facets of the process, Baker Tilly is being recommended as the district auditor. The RFP called for a three-year agreement to begin with the Fiscal Year (FY) 12 audit. The total cost over the three-year period will be \$139,950.

### **MOTION**

Member Vroman moved, Member Intihar seconded to approve Baker Tilly as the auditor for District 200. Upon a roll call being taken, the vote was: AYE 5 (Vroman, Intihar, Coghill, Knicker, Swanson), NAY 1 (Gambaiani). **The motion carried 5-1.**

### Approval of Parameters Resolution for Refunding Bonds

Interest rates are at historic lows, and this presents an opportunity for the district to refinance a portion of the debt to save money for the taxpayers. Up to \$15M of the 2003 Bonds are callable within the next 18 months. These Bonds were issued to finance referendum approved projects and to refund a portion of the district's outstanding debt in advance. These Bonds currently have an average interest rate between 5.2% - 5.25%. Current interest rates are in the low 3% range.

Another consideration along with this refinancing opportunity is the pending sale of the former Hubble Middle School. The district would have \$5M of proceeds which are committed to paying down the debt as promised to the taxpayers.

Over the course of the past five months, the Board Finance Committee has met with representatives of PMA Securities to review refinancing options and the use of the Hubble proceeds. Based on the current interest rate environment, the Finance Committee is recommending that the Board of Education consider refinancing approximately \$10M of the 2003 Bonds. The proceeds from the sale of the Hubble sale could then be used to defease the remaining portion of the callable debt. This would save the owner of a \$300,000 home approximately \$212 over the next six (6) years.

In order to accomplish this, the Board must approve Parameters Resolutions for refunding bonds and required Escrow Agreement. This would allow the Board President, Board Secretary and Superintendent to proceed with the process. Since the marketplace can change over time, the resolutions would include criteria that must be met in order for the process to move forward. The Finance Committee set a minimum present value savings of 5% in order to move forward.

Resolutions were provided to the Board. All documents comply with the recommendations made by the Board Finance Committee.

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the parameter resolution for refunding bonds as recommended by the Finance Committee.

Board Secretary Knicker read the Parameters Resolution.

Mr. Bob Lewis from PMA Securities used a PowerPoint to present information on the following:

- Historical Interest Rates
- Refunding Opportunity
- Refunding with Subsequent Defeasance
- With Defeasance and IL General Obligation Bonds
- Risks Related to Refunding with IL General Obligation Bonds
- Rating Scale
- Breakeven Analysis
- Timeline
- Estimated Cost of Issuance

Member Gambaiani stated that if the Board proceeds with this refunding, it will not change the terms of the bonds. In other words, the bonds will still be paid off in the same amount of time. Dr. Harris stated that doing this appears to be in the best interest of the taxpayers with interest rates at an all-time low. These funds would be used to pay down debt as promised.

There was a discussion about the repayment options. The repayment option recommended gets immediate savings to the tax payers and gets the relief visible.

#### **MOTION**

Member Intihar moved, Member Coghill seconded to approve the parameter resolution for refunding bonds as recommended by the Finance Committee. Upon a roll call being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

#### Approval of Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Escrow Agreement in Connection with 2012 Refunding Bonds

With approval of the previous action item, the Board must also approve a Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Escrow Agreement. A Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Escrow Agreement in Connection with 2012 Refunding Bonds was provided to the Board. All documents comply with the recommendations made by the Board Finance Committee. It is recommended that the Board approve the Resolution Authorizing the Execution of an Escrow Agreement in Connection with 2012 Refunding Bonds.

Board Member Knicker read the Escrow Resolution

#### **MOTION**

Member Vroman moved, Member Intihar seconded to approve the Resolution authorizing the execution of a escrow agreement in connection with 2012 refunding bonds. Upon a roll call being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

### Approval of Middle School Boundary Adjustment

The Board of Education has been discussing boundary changes to address the overcrowding concerns at Franklin Middle School. The final recommendation considers feedback that was generated from many parent contacts including the meeting on January 18 and the Board discussion on February 8.

This final recommendation includes moving:

- 1) Students residing in the Parkway Commons South apartment complex on Gunderson Drive in Carol Stream; and
- 2) Students who live north of Geneva Road and south of Tubeway, west of Schmale and east of Gary Ave.

The change would be phased in over the next three school years and would allow all current students who attend Franklin to have the choice to attend Monroe or finish their middle school years at Franklin by a “Grandfather” provision. Transportation for the students who choose to stay at Franklin Middle School will be provided at an additional annual cost of \$20,000 under the “Grandfather” provision.

It is recommended that the Board approve the middle school boundary adjustment as presented in the final recommendation.

Dr. Harris stated that anytime the district recommends boundary changes, the main purpose is to provide an appropriate learning environment for students. Change is difficult but necessary or the district would not do it. It is stressful for all parties. Dr. Harris reviewed the process that was used to make this recommendation. The staff goal in this decision was to limit the number of students changed, only focus on Franklin Middle School, maintain neighborhood integrity and to limit or not incur additional transportation costs. Staff looked at five scenarios and believes that the recommendation brought forward is the best fit. The final recommendation provides for transportation, and while this requires the addition of one bus route, staff believes that they can find the money to pay for this from the elimination of a couple of elementary routes and other efficiencies.

Dr. Harris explained the difference between building utilization capacities and number of students in seats. The national average and standard for middle school utilization capacities is 85%. Franklin is operating at 90% to 95% utilization capacity, which is not optimum. It is important to look at program capacity, not number of seats.

### **MOTION**

Member Knicker moved, Member Vroman seconded to approve the Franklin boundary changes as presented in the final recommendation. Upon a roll call being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Member Intihar requested that enrollment and boundary issues be put on the “parking lot” of ideas for future Board discussion. Member Intihar would like to see a conversation during the goal setting sessions to set a regular date every year for the Board to receive a report from staff that shows current enrollments and capacities at each school.

### **WRITTEN REPORTS**

#### FOIA Report

This report was provided for information only.

## REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

None

## NEXT REGULAR MEETING

April 11, 2012 – Franklin Middle School

## PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items

None

## CLOSED SESSION/ADJOURNMENT

### MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Intihar moved, Member Knicker seconded to adjourn the meeting to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Student Discipline 5ILCS 120/2(c)(9), Personnel Items 5ILCS 120/2(c)(1) Collective Negotiating 5ILCS 120.2(c)(2). Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 6, NAY 0. **The motion carried 6-0.**

Action is expected following the closed session.

The meeting was adjourned to closed session at 9:55 PM.

### MOTION

Member Intihar moved, Member Coghill seconded to reinstate the rules and reconvene in Open Session. Upon a roll call being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

The meeting was reconvened at 11:18 PM. Mr. Johnson joined the meeting during the Closed Session.

### MOTION

Member Vroman moved, Member Intihar seconded to uphold the expulsion of student E2011-12-02 for the remainder of the 2011-12 school year and the first semester of 2012-13 school year as recommended. This expulsion will be held in lieu of enrollment in and successful completion of an alternative education program. If the student does not successfully complete the program at the alternative education placement, the expulsion will be immediately enacted without further action by the Board of Education. Upon a roll call being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

### MOTION

There being no further action to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Intihar moved, Member Coghill seconded to adjourn the meeting. Upon a roll call being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:23 PM.

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**Ken Knicker, Secretary**

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**Rosemary Swanson, President**