

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
February 8, 2017

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 Hawthorne Elementary School, 334 East Wakeman Avenue, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Jim Vroman, on Wednesday, February 8, 2017, at 7:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

Board Members: Jim Vroman
 Brad Paulsen
 Chris Crabtree
 Joann Coghill
 Jim Gambaiani

Absent: Barbara Intihar
 Jim Mathieson

Also in Attendance: Dr. Jeff Schuler, Superintendent
 Mrs. Faith Dahlquist
 Mr. Bill Farley
 Mrs. Erica Loiacono
 Mr. Rod Mack
 Dr. Joanne Panopoulos
 Dr. Robert Rammer

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

COMMUNICATION WITH THE HOST SCHOOL

Hawthorne Elementary School Principal Danielle Moran welcomed everyone. Staff members and students shared creative and collaborative projects which incorporated the FIT guide. A video was also shared involving fifth grade students and their “Genius Hour” projects.

MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA

None

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	Dan Wagner
Topic	Future Budget Planning

Speaker	Tom Paulsen
Topic	Facility Master Plan

Speaker	Susan Booton
Topic	Facility Master Plan

Speaker	Harold Lonks
Topic	Fund Raising Feasibility Study/Facility Master Plan

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Schuler reported the following:

- The PTA Reflections program took place at Hubble last week. A copy of the program was provided to board members. Dr. Schuler thanked the PTA council for their support of this program.
- The INCubatoredu upcoming entrepreneurship program at both high schools has been recruiting volunteers. A volunteer breakfast was held this morning at WNHS and there will be one held at WWSHS on March 1 at 8:00 AM. Coaches and mentor participation is needed and welcome.
- The Student Excellence Foundation planning retreat was held last weekend. The board is accepting gifts tonight in excess of \$29K from the foundation’s winter/spring grant cycle.
- There will be a reception before the March 8 board meeting at WNHS to recognize the National Merit Scholars of both high schools. The reception will be held at 7:00 PM, with the meeting to follow at 7:30 PM.
- The new legislative session is in full swing with a lot of new bills being introduced. Dr. Schuler and staff have been monitoring the bills through LUDA, and will continue to monitor development of these bills and pass along information as appropriate.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Acceptance of Gift from Walmart Community Grant to Hawthorne Elementary School – Recommend acceptance of the gift from Walmart Community Grant to Hawthorne School as presented.
2. Acceptance of Gifts from Student Excellence Foundation – Recommend acceptance of gifts from the Student Excellence Foundation as presented.
3. Approve Revised Policy 4.40 Incurring Debt – Recommend approval of revised policy 4.40 as presented.
4. Approve Revised Policy 4.50 Payment Procedures – Recommend approval of revised policy 4.50 as presented.

5. Approve Revised Policy 4.52 Revolving Funds – Recommend approval of revised policy 4.52 as presented.
6. Approve Revised Policy 4.90 Activity Funds – Recommend approval of revised policy 4.90 as presented.
7. Approve Revised Policy 4.150 Facilities Management – Recommend approval of revised policy 4.150 as presented.
8. Approval to Post High School Algebra I Textbook for Public Review and Comment – Recommend approval to post high school Algebra I textbook as presented.
9. Approval to Post High School Economics Textbook for Public Review and Comment – Recommend approval to post high school Economics textbook as presented.
10. Approval to Post High School German 1 Textbook for Public Review and Comment – Recommend approval to post high school German 1 textbook as presented.
11. Approval to Dispose of Surplus Technology Assets – Recommend approval to dispose of surplus technology assets as presented.
12. Approval of ROE Permit Applications for scheduled work at WNHS, WWSHS, and Johnson Elementary School through the approved guaranteed energy savings contract – Recommend approval of ROE permit applications for scheduled work at WNHS, WWSHS, and Johnson Elementary School through the approved guaranteed energy savings contract as presented.
13. Approval of Bills Payable and Payroll – Recommend approval of the bills payable and payroll as presented.
14. Approval of Minutes – January 11, 2017 Open, January 25, 2017 Committee of the Whole, Open and Approval to Destroy Recordings of Closed Sessions Prior to September 2015 As Allowable by Law – Recommend approval of the minutes as presented and approval to destroy recordings of closed sessions prior to September 2015 as allowable by law.
15. Approval of Personnel Report to Include Employment, Resignation, Retirement, and Leave of Absence of Administrative, Certified, Classified and Non-Union Staff – Recommend approval of the Personnel Report as presented.

There was no additional information provided from Dr. Schuler. There was a comment to potentially revisit policy 4.150 – Facilities Management, depending on the outcome of the referendum in April.

MOTION

Member Paulsen moved, Member Crabtree seconded to accept the Consent Agenda as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 5, NAY 0. **The motion carried 5-0.**

POLICY POSTING CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval to Post Policy 4.10 Fiscal and Business Management for Public Review and Comment – Recommend approval to post policy 4.10 as presented.
2. Approval to Post Revised Policy 4.30 Revenue and Investments for Public Review and Comment – Recommend approval to post revised policy 4.30 as presented.
3. Approval to Post Revised Policy 4.80 Accounting and Audits for Public Review and Comment – Recommend approval to post revised policy 4.80 as presented.
4. Approval to Post Revised Policy 6.60 Curriculum Content for Public Review and Comment – Recommend approval to post revised policy 6.60 as presented.
5. Approval to Post Revised Policy 6.235 Access to Technology for Public Review and Comment – Recommend approval to post revised policy 6.235 as presented.
6. Approval to Post Revised Policy 7.60 Residence for Public Review and Comment – Recommend approval to post revised policy 7.60 as presented.

There was no additional information provided regarding the policies which were posted. President Vroman pointed out that the agenda is reviewed by board members after it is published. There may have been questions that were asked and answered regarding the agenda prior to the meeting.

MOTION

Member Paulsen moved, Member Coghill seconded to accept the Policy Posting Consent Agenda as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 5, NAY 0. **The motion carried 5-0.**

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Fund Raising Feasibility Study

Through the Vision 2018 Plan, a goal was identified to explore alternate revenue sources, when available, to support district needs. This was specifically called out as a Board Priority and the focus has been on supporting other agencies (PTA, Student Excellence Foundation) in their efforts to raise funds to support District 200 Programs.

As part of the Master Facility Plan, an option has been discussed to conduct a capital campaign as a supplementary funding source for existing district funds and potential referendum funding. The Community Engagement Committee discussed this option and asked administration to explore potential donors that might help to support the cost of a feasibility study.

Conducting a feasibility study is an important step in determining levels of private gift support available in the community. The study can be used as a research tool to determine fundraising potential in District 200. Results would determine if a campaign is viable and help in determining the best methods for a major gifts campaign. To truly embrace the Board goal of looking for alternative revenue sources, this would be a key step to take.

Over the summer, the District discussed the potential capital campaign with the DuPage Community Foundation and solicited proposals from three potential partners identified as qualified consultants. The proposed cost for conducting a feasibility study ranged from \$28,000 to \$40,000. Administration has secured \$14,000 in private support for the study, and discussed with the Board at the January 25th Committee of the Whole the recommendation to fund the remaining \$14,250 from the District Budget.

Pruehs and Associates has been identified as the firm the District would recommend partnering with on the fund raising feasibility study. They do have extensive experience working with school districts, higher education partners, and other community agencies to complete similar studies. Their timeline identifies May 5th as the completion date for the study and report. The proposal from Pruehs and Associates was attached to the board packet. \$14,000 in donations have been identified to support the study, leaving \$14,250 for the Board of Education to fund.

There was discussion on the following:

- The pros/cons of waiting to conduct the feasibility study until post referendum.
- The purpose of the study is to determine the potential of major gift prospects and trying to identify where there is potential support within the community.
- Regardless of the outcome of the referendum, there is value in understanding if there is support for a major capital campaign.

- Is there anything prohibiting the firm conducting the study from identifying future projects that people are interested in supporting?
- If funds are identified and donated, this could potentially offset the bonds.
- The projects that have been identified have merit and will be needed regardless of whether the referendum passes or not.
- We owe it to the community to see if there are the means to fund identified projects.
- Does the firm identified have enough school experience in Illinois?
- The community asked the board to look for alternative ways to fund and this is one way to get that accomplished.

It was recommended that the Board of Education approve and execute the agreement with Pruehs & Associates to conduct the fund raising feasibility study.

MOTION

Member Crabtree moved, Member Paulsen seconded to approve the fund raising feasibility study as presented. Upon a roll call being taken, the vote was: AYE 4 (Crabtree, Paulsen, Coghill, Vroman), NAY 1 (Gambaiani). **The motion carried 4-1**

ORAL REPORT

Future Budget Planning

Dr. Schuler clarified that this discussion is not meant to start a list of potential cuts within the district, but only to take a look at the buckets, costs and areas that make up the buckets within the budget. This will set the foundation for future budget conversations.

Dr. Schuler introduced Mr. Bill Farley, Assistant Superintendent for Business, who gave a PowerPoint presentation on Future Budget Planning. This presentation included the following:

- Factors Identified in 5 Year Projections
- State of Illinois Funding – 10 Year History
- Past Reductions – 2009 and 2010
- Goal of Budget Discussion
- 2017-18 Budget Overview

There were additional comments on the following:

- The impact of the Sherman-Dergis “reset” is in place for next year’s budget.
- The district will continue to monitor the status of Senate Bill 1 (Grand Compromise).
- From a legal standpoint, implementation of any potential staffing decisions based on the outcome of the referendum would not be able to be made for the 17-18 school year.
- The district has lost over \$40M in state funding compared to where it was at in 2008.
- District 200 made two rounds of significant cuts to address the reduction in state funding, consisting in excess of \$7M in 2009 and an additional \$6.5M in 2010. There was an additional \$1M made internally.
- The district has maintained a balanced budget for the last seven years, and expenditures have increased only 3.55% in the last 5 years while trying to deal with the uncertainties at the State level.

Dr. Schuler commended the board with having the commitment to be sure a balanced budget is presented. Due to all of the uncertainties, it is important to identify and ask questions about any areas or expenditures in the current budget which board members may have. As part of this, it is

important to identify any additional information that staff may need to obtain for the board to be prepared for different budget scenarios. The Board Finance Committee may be needed to answer questions that may arise as a result of this process. The budget overview document includes 3 main funds of the budget and the buckets that make up each of the funds.

There were questions or discussion on the following:

- Stipends for extracurricular activities.
- Food service and the National School Lunch Program.
- The budget is not adopted until September. Should this discussion wait until after the April 4 date?
- This information would be helpful for the community to see the areas affected by potential cuts.
- Clarification on the budget: we are currently in FY 17 and the budget for FY 18 is for the upcoming school year (2017-18).
- This process is necessary now to identify opportunities and alternatives within our budget for modifications.
- Fees – last time they were raised and how this compares with benchmark districts.
- Reallocation of funds vs. potential cuts in services or staff.
- There is a difference in being alarmists vs. realists.
- \$80M of the district budget is in salaries and in teachers.
- Transportation cost.
- Special education outplacement costs.
- Cannot cut teachers without increasing class sizes.
- Potential mandate relief?
- This conversation goes beyond the April 4 vote.

Dr. Schuler reiterated that it is important that board members have any information they may want or need to make any and all important decisions, and that staff can provide board members with any information or data that is needed to potentially make those decisions.

WRITTEN REPORTS

Monthly Financial Reports

FOIA Report

These reports were provided for information only.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Board Committee Reports

The minutes from the Board Finance Committee of January 23, 2017 were attached and posted for review with the board packet.

Other Reports from Board Members

President Vroman commented that Member Intihar, who was not able to be at the meeting tonight, was in support of the feasibility study.

There is a Board Facilities Committee Meeting on Friday morning, February 10th at 7:30 AM.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Board Update – Future of Instruction & Technology (FIT) Goal

Master Technology Plan

Board Update – Social and Emotional Learning (SEL)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

February 22, 2017 – Committee of the Whole, 7:30 PM, SSC

May 2, 2017 – Board Reorganization Meeting, 5:30 PM, SSC

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

March 8, 2017, 7:30 PM, Wheaton North High School

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items

None

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Crabtree moved, Member Coghill seconded to adjourn the meeting. Upon a voice call being taken, all were in favor and **the motion carried 5-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:13 PM.

Chris Crabtree, Secretary

Jim Vroman, President