

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
October 12, 2017

A special meeting of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, was called to order at Whittier Elementary School, 218 W Park Avenue, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Jim Vroman, on Thursday, October 12, 2017, at 8:09 AM. Local legislators were present at the meeting to discuss issues surrounding public education with local government officials who represent the school district.

ROLL CALL

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

Board Members: Jim Vroman
 Brad Paulsen
 Chris Crabtree
 Ginna Ericksen
 Jim Gambaiani
 Jim Mathieson

Absent: Rob Hanlon

CUSD200 Staff: Dr. Jeff Schuler – Superintendent of Schools
 Mrs. Faith Dahlquist – Asst. Superintendent for Educational Services
 Mr. Bill Farley – Asst. Superintendent for Business Operations
 Dr. Joanne Panopoulos – Asst. Superintendent for Student Services
 Dr. Robert Rammer – Asst. Superintendent for Administrative Services
 Ms. Erica Loiacono – Director of Public Relations
 Mr. Rodney Mack – Executive Director of Technology
 Ms. Jen Craig – Washington Elementary School Principal
 Ms. Danielle Moran – Hawthorne Elementary School Principal

Elected Officials Mike Benard – Wheaton Park District Executive Director
 Robert Berlin – DuPage County State’s Attorney
 Frank Bibbiano – DuPage County Sherriff’s Office
 Joseph Breinig – Village of Carol Stream Manager
 David Brummel – City of Warrenville Mayor
 John Coakley – City of Warrenville City Administrator
 Kathryn Davolos – City of Warrenville Alderwoman
 Michael Dzugan – City of Wheaton Manager
 Grant Eckhoff – DuPage County Board Member
 Tim Elliott – DuPage County Board Member
 Suzanne Fitch – City of Wheaton Councilwoman
 Leah Goodman – City of Warrenville Alderwoman
 Amy Grant – DuPage County Board Member
 Michael Gresk – City of Wheaton Mayor

Richard Jorgensen – DuPage County Coroner
Chris LeVan – Milton Township Assessor
Steve Massie – Winfield Park District Board President
Joe McHaley – Wheaton Public Library Trustee
Ray Morrill – Wheaton Park District Board Commissioner
John Prendiville – City of Wheaton Councilman
Tim Reinbold – Warrenville Park District Executive Director
John Rutledge – City of Wheaton Councilman
Frank Saverino – Village of Carol Stream Mayor
Phil Suess – City of Wheaton Councilman
John Vires – Wheaton Park District Board President
Colin Wilke – Warrenville Park District Commissioner

MOTION

Member Gambaiani moved, Member Crabtree seconded to suspend the rules and adjourn to a workshop setting. Upon a voice call vote being taken, all were in favor and the motion carried.

Welcome

Dr. Schuler welcomed all to this annual event. He noted that the strength of the community and the government organizations is the ability to work together. The focus of District 200 is on education and the children and the District works best when operating with a cohesive group.

Dr. Schuler noted the Niche ranking given to the District as #10 in the state. This ranking is not solely based on test scores. The test scores are one piece of a bigger system that defines success. Niche also looks at safety and security, extracurricular opportunities and participation of students, food service quality, and feedback from parents as well as students. This ranking is not only the result of the District, but of everyone present and the organizations that were represented. If everyone is working together, everyone is doing their jobs.

Board President Vroman echoed the comments by Superintendent Schuler and referenced the partnerships that have been developed by all of the parties represented in the room.

Superintendent Schuler asked all local officials to introduce themselves and the areas they represent.

Dr. Schuler did a short introduction to the makeup of District 200. This included the following information:

- District 200 educates just under 13,000 students
- Over 600 new move-in students registered to start the 2017-18 year in the District
- Student population continues to grow in diversity
 - Almost 10% with English as a second language
- Demographics and Expenditures of the District (2016 school report card data)
 - Per Pupil Spending
 - % Low Income
 - % English Learners
 - % Mobility
- Celebrations: College & Career Readiness
 - ACT Testing

- Average Composite Score
 - % Scoring 20 or Higher on Exam
 - Changeover from ACT to SAT
- AP success
 - Numbers enrolled
 - % Seniors Scoring “3” or Higher on Exam
 - Actively Looking to Expand Dual Credit Courses
- School Assessment Success
 - 5% Increase in Reading Scores
 - Increased Reading Performance Over 15 Years (Longitudinal Study)
 - Balancing Academic Achievement on Standardized Tests with Creativity, Problem Solving, Social/Emotional Learning, Fine Arts & Wellness
- Two New Classes at the High Schools
 - Business INCubator Program
 - Mobile Makers Curriculum
- Coding and Engineering Emphasis
- Universal Access to Technology at School & Home
- Social Emotional Learning
 - Parenting Seminars for 2017-18
- Fiscal Responsibility
 - Expense per D200 student is below the state average
 - Standard & Poor Bond Rating: AA Stable
 - State Board of Ed Designation: Financial Recognition (highest possible)
 - FY16 Fund Balance: 29.7%
 - Balanced Budget – Eight Consecutive Years
 - New State Funding Formula – Modest Increase Projection for the District
- District Facilities Update
 - Early Learning Center Plan
 - Reviewed ELC options from referendum 2016 to current plan which is to focus on building at the current Jefferson site
 - Secured Entries
 - Capital Projects
 - Making progress, but a lot of work ahead of us

There was discussion with the local officials on the following:

- The District plans to show the movie “Screenagers” again in the Spring and this information will be shared with the community.
- The District does a great job to prepare students for college.
- The District is also preparing those students for their next steps who will not be going onto college. Not all will attend a four year school. D200 focus is on career placement, has a relationship with Technology Center of DuPage (TCD) and shared some of their program offerings – EMT, cosmetology, nursing, etc. There are dual credit opportunities for those students.
- The alternative measures besides ACT scores to determine if students are college and career ready.
- Reasons for the last referendum in 2016 not being successful included it was too much or too big, covered too much for some in the community to differentiate want vs. need, and the difficult climate to talk about tax increase.

- The steps that the Board of Education has taken to narrow the scope of the District needs and to address the early learning solution in alternative ways. Focusing on the highest priority needs are a result of the feedback from the community and the post referendum survey.
- The focus on the school district as younger families are moving into the school district.
- The opioid crisis in the county and how this is being addressed within the schools, which includes incorporating this into the HS curriculum, bringing in speakers, providing staff with inservice opportunities on the subject, and bringing information to the Middle School students through a program that was developed by a parent of an opioid victim.
- It is important that every student in our schools has a place.

Dr. Schuler thanked everyone for taking the time to come together.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Dr. Schuler and President Vroman thanked everyone for attending and sharing.

MOTION

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

The meeting was adjourned at 8:59 AM.

Chris Crabtree, Secretary

James Vroman, President