

MINUTES
BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
November 11, 2015

The first regular meeting of the month of November of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, was called to order at Jefferson Preschool Center, 130 N Hazelton, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Jim Vroman, on Wednesday, November 11, 2015, at 7:30 PM.

ROLL CALL

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

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

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mrs. Stephanie Farrelly led the Board and community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

RECOGNITIONS

Dr. Schuler stated that Sunday, November 15, 2015 is School Board Member Day in the State of Illinois. This day is to honor those individuals that devote their time to children of our district. The cities of Wheaton and Warrenville have adopted proclamations naming November 15, 2015 “School Board Members Day” as a way to honor those citizens who devote so much time and energy for the education of our children. Dr. Schuler read the proclamations.

COMMUNICATION WITH THE HOST SCHOOL

Mrs. Stephanie Farrelly, Principal of Jefferson Early Childhood Center, welcomed the Board, community and administration to the school. A PowerPoint detailing Jefferson Early Childhood Center Programs and Services was used to share the following information:

- What We Know
- Free Developmental Screenings
- Legal Mandates
- District 200 Early Childhood Services

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	Kristin Buck
Topic	Jefferson

Speaker	Harold Lonks
Topic	Calendar/Audit

SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

Dr. Schuler reported the following:

- Member Intihar has maintained her Master Board status with the IASB and was given a 2014 addition to her IASB pin for her continuing board work.
- Today the schools all celebrated and recognized Veterans Day. Dr. Schuler attended events at several of the buildings and every one he attended was outstanding.
- Yesterday Monroe had a surprise visitor. A student won a contest and was surprised at an assembly where Jonathan Toews from the Chicago Blackhawks presented him with his prize. Monroe Middle School also received some PE equipment from the sponsors.
- There have been a number of sessions on the State of the Schools. It has been great to have so many board members in attendance at the events. It is important to make sure we have representation without outnumbering the crowd. Dr. Schuler is looking for feedback on how the invitations and announcements get sent out to Board members. President Vroman and Dr. Schuler will be talking about this topic and will bring some ideas to the Board.
- The Student Services Department is using a new program called PAES (Practical Assessment Exploration System) at WNHS. This is a hands on program that provides comprehensive curriculum for proper work development. This program helps develop students for career placements.
- Several Board members had a tour of the Jefferson Early Childhood Center prior to the start of the meeting tonight. This is a great snapshot of the building but it is also important for people to see the dynamics of the program and building when students and staff are here to better see what goes on at Jefferson.
- Friday morning there will be a breakfast to honor the staff at the two Blue Ribbon Schools, Emerson and Longfellow. Next week Dr. Schuler will be meeting with

Representative Ives and Senator Connelly are hosting a meeting with Deputy Governor for Education Beth Purvis. This is a joint meeting with District 203 and 204 leadership to discuss a number of areas of concern for the districts.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Acceptance of Gifts from WWS Tiger PAWS – Recommend the acceptance of the gifts from the WWS Tiger PAWS as presented.
2. Acceptance of Gift to Jefferson Early Childhood Center – Recommend acceptance of the gift to Jefferson Early Childhood Center as presented.
3. Acceptance of Gifts to Hawthorne Staff Members – Recommend acceptance of the gifts to Hawthorne Staff Members as presented.
4. Approval of revised Policy 8.25 Distributing Material – Recommend approval of the revised policy as presented and posted.
5. Approval of Bills Payable and Payroll – Recommend approval of the bills payable and payroll as presented.
6. Approval of Minutes – September 30, 2015 Committee of the Whole, October 14, 2015 Open and Closed, October 15, 2015 Special Meeting, October 28, 2015 Committee of the Whole, and Approval to Destroy Recordings of Closed Sessions Prior to June 2014 as Allowable by Law – Recommend approval of the minutes as presented and approval to destroy recordings of closed sessions prior to June 2014 as allowable by law.
7. 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.

MOTION

Member Crabtree moved, Member Coghill 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

Acceptance of the 2014-15 Financial Audit

Annually, our auditors prepare 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 Miller Cooper & Co., Ltd. Susan Jones and/or Betsy Allen from Miller Cooper & Co., Ltd. addressed the Board of Education to discuss the findings and opinions of the 2014-15 Financial Audit. The final audit was attached to this report, along with the Communications to the Board of Education.

It is recommended that the Board of Education accept the 2014-15 Financial Audit prepared by Miller Cooper & Co., Ltd.

Susan Jones of Miller and Cooper & Co. reviewed the highlights of the audit review. Board members asked questions for clarification. Ms. Jones reported that the staff was very cooperative through the audit process, provided timely responses to questions and requests from the audit firm, and were very accessible throughout the process.

MOTION

Member Mathieson moved, Member Intihar seconded to accept the 2014-15 Financial Audit prepared by Miller Cooper & Co., LTD as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Adoption of the 2015 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 request exceeds 105% of the previous year's aggregate extension a public notice and hearing are needed before the official levy is adopted. The Board of Education is limited to an increase no greater than the Consumer Price Index (CPI) from the previous year under the Property Tax Extension Limitation Law (PTELL or "tax cap"). Annually the Board of Education reviews a levy proposal prepared by the administration. This levy proposal was previously presented to the Board Finance Committee. The recommended levy, which provides for a 4.75% increase is listed below.

Although the proposed levy increase is 4.75%, it is anticipated that as in previous years, the tax cap will significantly reduce the actual extension. The tax cap will limit tax growth by the consumer price index for 2014 of 0.8%, plus any new construction growth in the district. Given the slight increase in the rate of inflation as well as unpredictable new construction values, we recommend that the Board make every effort to access all funds available under the tax cap. Additionally, uncertain status of funding from the State of Illinois necessitates that the Board request access to the funding levels allowed under the cap.

FUND 2015 LEVY REQUEST

- Education \$106,000,000
- Special Ed \$3,000,000
- Tort \$0
- O&M \$12,250,000
- Transportation \$5,250,000
- IMRF \$1,200,000
- Social Security \$3,500,000
- Life Safety \$ 0
- Working Cash \$0
- **TOTAL \$131,200,000**

The proposed 2015 tax levy (excluding debt services) increase is less than the 105% (less than 5%) of the previous year (2014) aggregate extension, which was \$125,253,485.01. Therefore, the Board of Education is not required to hold a public hearing on the tax levy. The anticipated Debt Service (Bond & Interest) levy is \$18,615,393.

The formal levy resolutions and forms that must be adopted by the Board and filed with the County Clerk were attached to this report. This will complete the levy process.

It is recommended that the attached resolution and certificates for the 2015 Tax Levy be adopted as presented, that the Certificate of Tax Levy be executed, and that all forms be filed with the County Clerk.

Mr. Farley presented information with a PowerPoint that included the following topics:

- Levy Terms
- Consumer Price Index
- 10 Year CPI History – Levy Year
- How will the CPI finish in 2015?
- CPI/Extension History
- EAV History
- New Construction

- EAV, CPI & Tax Rate
- Five Year History of Tax Rates
- 2014 Levy Breakdown
- How Much Should We Receive?
- 2015 Levy Proposal
- Proposed vs. Actual Levy
- Unknowns
- Recommendation – Levy request which provides access to the PTELL allowed CPI of 0.8% plus new growth

There was discussion about the levy proposal that included the following items:

- New EAV
- New Growth
- New Developments
- TIF money
- The inability to capture the new growth in subsequent years
- Average homeowner will have about a \$50-\$60 impact in their taxes with this levy
- New growth from Wheaton TIF 1 will be in next year's levy
- If the district does not plan for the unknowns then the district has to ask the tax payers for more money, the district should instead plan for the unknowns, the district/board need to make hard decisions on expenses to have money for other expenses that is not tied to the fund balance
- Prudent to ask for the money in new growth so we do not have to ask for a huge jump from the current homeowners to pay the bills
- It is difficult to maintain the funding structure with reduced money from the state
- If the district does not have enough funds then there needs to be a discussion about what programs should be cut across the board
- Will the district have time to react or do decisions need to be made now about cuts
- Are other districts doing anything specific yet or just having conversations similar to ours
- This discussion is not about budget cuts, it is about the levy and leveraging the money needed and available under PTELL

MOTION

Member Intihar moved, Member Paulsen seconded to adopt the 2015 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, the vote was: AYE 6 (Intihar, Paulsen, Coghill, Crabtree, Mathieson, Vroman), NAY 1 (Gambaiani). **The motion carried 6-1.**

Approval to Post the Revised Recommended 2016-2017 School Calendar for Public Review and Comment

The recommended 2016-2017 school calendar was posted for public review and comment at the October 14, 2015 Board of Education Meeting. Responses from the public were attached to this report. The District received a number of responses about the recommended calendar. There are many rules and conditions that dictate the formation of the calendar and every adjustment triggers some other change. Once again, the calendar is subject to agreement with the bargaining units and cannot be changed unilaterally. Although the community responses presented a wide range of suggestions, the start of the school year was a common theme. The District Calendar Committee, comprised of representatives from both bargaining units at all three levels and building and district administrators, met and reviewed the community comments. While there is no way to address all the possible suggestions, the Committee is recommending adjusting the

start of the 2016-17 school year to August 22, 2016 for staff and August 24, 2016 for students. This adjustment would establish the last day of school as June 8, 2017. Given the significant change in the proposed calendar, it is recommended that Board approval be postponed until the December meeting to allow for additional public comment. With the understanding that the determination of the calendar rests among the Board of Education and the District's two bargaining units, it is worthwhile to know the perspective of the community.

It is recommended that the Revised Recommended 2016-2017 School Calendar be posted for public review and comment.

Dr. Rammer reported that the consistent theme in the many comments received regarding the calendar is the start of the school year. The calendar is constructed educationally first and then collaborated on with the two bargaining groups and staff. The committee reconvened after the numerous comments to try to come to consensus. The calendar is a fluid document in that dates move each year with the shift of holidays to different days of the week. The proposal tonight was created from the concerns of the community and the desire to be responsive to their thoughts and requests.

There was discussion about the calendar and the ramifications of changes. It was suggested that the Board approve some version of the calendar in December for the 2016-2017 school year and then work to set guidelines for the 2017-2018 calendar to find a common ground with the diverse community that is served. Many comments also included concerns about final exams at the high schools. The Board might have to consider a conversation about the purpose of final exams and what they are really providing our students. Parent representatives might need to be added to the committee. The "sacred cows" like Thanksgiving break and late start times need to be documented as topics needing to be considered in the formation of the calendar.

It was suggested that the start dates for school may be impacted by the Master Facility Plan and the impact on the completion of summer projects and should be included in the calendar conversations.

There was discussion about how the week off at Thanksgiving came to be a full week off.

MOTION

Member Paulsen moved, Member Intihar seconded to approve the posting of the revised 2016-2017 School Calendar as presented. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

Acceptance of the IASB Resolutions and Direction for Delegate Voting

Each year the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) holds an annual conference. At the annual conference, Boards of Education submit resolutions for consideration by the delegates. Resolutions that are adopted then become items the IASB works to change or implement. Board members received the resolutions and after discussion need to direct the delegate how to vote during the delegate assembly.

It is recommended that the Board of Education approve the IASB Resolutions and direct the delegate on how to vote at the Delegate Assembly at the IASB Annual Conference on November 21, 2015.

There was conversation about the proposed resolutions. It was decided that Member Intihar, the District 200 Delegate, should vote as recommended by the IASB.

MOTION

Member Crabtree moved, Member Intihar seconded to accept the IASB Resolutions and direct Member Intihar to vote as recommended by the IASB. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

ORAL REPORTS

Mr. Farley and Mrs. Loiacono shared a report from the Enrollment Committee meeting. The report included:

- Enrollment Committee
 - Purpose
 - Members
 - Meetings and agendas
- 2014 Committee Recommendation
- 2013 Kasarda Enrollment Report
- Projections
- Historical Enrollment
- District Overview
- Elementary Enrollment
- MS & HS Enrollment
- Enrollment Trends – Kindergarten
- Enrollment Trends
- Factors of Enrollment Change
- Realtor Feedback
- Housing Developments
- Capacity Analysis
- Capacity Analysis – Jefferson
- Early Childhood Programs
- 2015 Committee Recommendation

WRITTEN REPORTS

Monthly Financial Reports

FOIA Report

Comparison District Information on MS World Language Courses

These reports were provided for information only.

REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS

Board Committee Reports

The Finance Committee report was included in the Audit Report

The HR Committee met and will share information with the Board later.

Other Reports from Board Members

Member Paulsen reported that he went to the fundraiser for the NEW 200 Foundation at Chik-fil-a and was very impressed with the turnout. The district did a great job of getting the word out. The foundation has grown quite a bit and is making an impact.

TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION

Finance Dashboard

Master Facility Plan

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

December 9, 2015, 7:30 PM, Washington Elementary School

PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-Agenda Items

None

Closed Session

MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Intihar moved, Member Paulsen seconded to adjourn the meeting to Closed Session for the purpose of discussing Collective Bargaining Matters 5ILCS120/2(c)(2). Upon a roll call being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

No action will be taken following the Closed Session.

The meeting was adjourned to Closed Session at 9:51PM.

Chris Crabtree, Secretary

Jim Vroman, President