

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
October 15, 2015

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 15, 2015, at 8:00 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
 Joann Coghill
 Jim Gambaiani
 Barbara Intihar
 Jim Mathieson

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

Elected Officials Amy Grant - DuPage County Board Member – 4th District
 Robert Berlin – DuPage State’s Attorney
 Gwen Henry - DuPage County Treasurer
 Don Rose - City Manager City of Wheaton
 John Rutledge - Councilman City of Wheaton
 W. Thoreson Saline – Councilman City of Wheaton
 Phil Suess - Councilman City of Wheaton
 Mike Benard - Executive Director Wheaton Park District
 Christine Fenne - President Wheaton Public Library Board
 Betsy Adamowski - Director Wheaton Public Library
 David Brummel - Mayor City of Warrenville
 Michael Hoffmann – Alderman Warrenville
 Diane Dillow – Exec. Director Warrenville Park District
 Karen Ross – Director of Marketing Warrenville Park District
 Chris LeVan - Assessor Milton Township

Mr. Chris Silagi led the group in the Pledge of Allegiance.

MOTION

Member Paulsen moved, Member Mathieson 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

President Jim Vroman welcomed everyone and thanked them for attending and thanked Principal Chris Silagi for hosting the event at Whittier School. President Vroman stated that the Board and District Administration look forward to this every year.

Dr. Schuler thanked everyone for attending to dialogue on what we are doing as we plan for the future of District 200. Last year when this group met the topic was SB 16. Fortunately, that bill did not move forward to the benefit of the district. Dr. Schuler thanked the group for being good partners to District 200.

The focus of this meeting is to talk about facilities and how they change and adapt to fit education needs. Following the meeting any attendees present are invited to have a tour of Whittier and see a new learning space at the school that was created this summer within the current building.

The PowerPoint included:

- We are District 200
- What Brought Us Together?
- Vision 2018
- We are District 200: Accomplishments
- Future of Learning
- Generation Z
- Are we planning for our past? Or our children's future?
- Facility Age Chart – Original Buildings
- Facility Age Chart – Last Major Project
- Facility Master Planning Process
- Capital Facilities Plan Overview
- Change
- Facilities Master Planning Team – Where do you fit in?
- What's Next

Future Community Engagement meetings will take place on December 2, January 20 and February 17. The District is looking for a plan that the community will feel good about.

Discussion centered on the following:

- The plan will be done in a way that shows the approach of what the community might want the schools to look like in 20 years, both in teaching and the environment
- The district has already created a cost estimate of what it will cost to maintain the facilities and this approach will help to ensure that plan meets the future needs in a cost effective manner

- After the plan is developed the district will need to discuss how to finance it and phase it in. The Board Finance Committee will look at the plan and investigate funding options.
- How the district will begin the approximate \$50M in work that we know will need to be done to maintain the current buildings.
- The Board has a fund balance policy and the Board will be discussing how some of the money that is in excess of the policy requirement can be used to fund some of the maintenance work
- The current capital development plan is broken into three categories – critical items needing to be addressed within the first 3 years, the items to keep an eye on, and the long term needs
- What is being done to help students understand the need for people to enter the manufacturing careers? – A number of District 200 students take advantage of the partnership the District has with the Technology Center of DuPage (TCD) on a daily basis and this area is one of the focus areas at TCD.
- District 200 advocates a requirement for students in reading because a strong path in that area is needed in all areas. The schools work to make sure all students know the options that are available for careers post high school.
- After the plan is completed the Board Finance Committee will look at how this is funded. There is not much money from the government so we have to look at how we want to use our money and after we work through those options the district might have to ask the community for some money. The plan will be a long term view along with how the district uses the money received. The plan does not have to be done all at once or even at all. It will be a plan of what the community would like to have if it can be paid for. The focus in the district has shifted the approach and has been working on what we can control over the past year.
- There is a need to get the community aware of where we are presently. With this plan we will know what the community wants should the money become available. Other groups that are raising money for the district can align their efforts with the vision. The plan will help us to avoid using money foolishly and give direction as to where the district is going.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

Dr. Schuler and President Vroman thanked everyone for attending and sharing. Tours of the school were given for any interested attendees.

MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Paulsen moved, Member Mathieson 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 9:02 AM.

Chris Crabtree, Secretary

James Vroman, President