

**MINUTES**  
**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200**  
**October 12, 2011**

The first regular meeting of the month of October of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, was called to order at Lincoln Elementary School, 630 Dawes Avenue, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Rosemary Swanson, on Wednesday, October 12, 2011, 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  
                             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**

Mrs. Kathy DeMarzo led the Board and community in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**COMMUNICATION WITH THE HOST SCHOOL**

Mrs. Kathy DeMarzo, Principal of Lincoln School, welcomed the Board of Education, administration and community members to the school. Mrs. DeMarzo recognized the staff in attendance, and the PTA President. Mrs. DeMarzo stated that when she was preparing for the meeting, she considered taking everyone on a field trip to see the new driveway that was installed over the summer. Since it was dark, Mrs. DeMarzo showed pictures of the new drive and thanked the Board on behalf of the entire Lincoln community. ELL teacher, Ms. Lopushonsky, shared a video highlighting the International display case at Lincoln School. Lincoln uses the display case to celebrate the many cultures of the school.

**MODIFICATIONS TO THE AGENDA**

There will be no closed session meeting following the business meeting.

## RECOGNITIONS AND ACHEIVEMENTS

Dr. Harris and Mrs. DeMarzo recognized LLC Director, Mrs. Deb Lawson. Mrs. Lawson received a *Those Who Excel Award* from the ISBE in support of student support personnel. The staff at Lincoln nominated Mrs. Lawson and submitted the application.

Dr. Harris recognized the Board of Education for receiving the School Board Governance Recognition Award from the IASB. This award is designed to acknowledge those school boards that have engaged in activities and modeled behaviors that lead to excellence in local school governance in support of quality public education. District 200 Board of Education is one of four districts in the state and the only district in DuPage County to receive this award.

## 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	Mary Ann Vitone
Topic	IASB

Speaker	Mark Stern
Topic	Appointment of Legal Contracts, etc.

## SUPERINTENDENT’S REPORT

Dr. Harris reported the following:

- Dr. Harris attended the LUDA conference and attended sessions regarding:
  - SB7 and the impact it will have on the district and the PEAC group that was formed to address the changes
  - Consolidation and the Classroom First Commission that has been formed - Dr. Harris will be attending a hearing on this on November 3.
  - Pension Reform – consensus is that reform is going to happen and Dr. Harris encouraged the Board to stay attuned to what is happening in Springfield
  - Funding of Regional Office of Education – there is an initiative to fund the ROE offices with funds from CPPAT. This is a concern for local districts because these funds will be diverted from the district.
- The all-day kindergarten program has a current enrollment of 194 students. There are 9 sections across the district and the informal feedback is that the adjustment has gone well. Teachers are thrilled to have the kids all day. Staff will be monitoring the short and long term progress of the program. This is a cost neutral program.
- This Friday and Saturday the district is holding an open house at the old Hubble/Central property to sell surplus equipment. The hours are 10:00-3:00 on Friday and 8:00-1:00 on Saturday. Items will be priced to sell and everyone is encouraged to stop by.

## CONSENT AGENDA

1. Approval of Annual Application for Recognition of Schools – It is recommended that the Board approve the application as presented.
2. Approval of Employer costs of IMRF Benefit Protection Leave – Recommend the approval of the estimated employer cost of this employee’s IMRF Benefit Protection Leave Request.
3. Approval of Truck Purchase from State Contract – Recommend the approval to purchase of a 2012 Ford F-350 pick-up truck with snow removal equipment as presented
4. Approval of Bills Payable and Payroll – Recommend approval of the bills payable and payroll reports as presented.
5. Approval of Minutes – September 14, 2011 Open and Closed, September 28, 2011 Special Meeting, September 28, 2011 Committee of the Whole, and Approval to Destroy the Recordings of Closed Sessions Prior to May 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.
6. Approval of Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports – Recommend the approval of the Personnel and Supplemental Personnel Reports as presented.

Mr. Gambaiani asked if the IMRF request represents a final payment. Mr. Farley reported that it is a final payment.

Mr. Gambaiani asked if the truck purchase represented the best price available. Mr. Farley reported that the district used the state bidding process and also checked that price with local dealers. The state bid price was the best and therefore the recommended vendor for this purchase.

## MOTION

Member Knicker moved, Member Johnson 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 ITEM

### Approval to Name Wheaton North High School Commons

On October 6, 2010, Robert J. Miller, a 2002 graduate of Wheaton North High School, was posthumously awarded the Congressional Medal of Honor by President Obama. During the Veteran’s Day assembly in 2010, Wheaton North High School recognized Sgt. Miller and commemorated this honor.

Subsequent to that assembly, there were discussions about exploring a way to memorialize Sgt. Miller’s award, his sacrifice for his Country, and the characteristics that embody a Congressional Medal of Honor recipient. Those discussions included naming a District 200 facility.

As indicated in District Policy, 4.155, the Board will carefully consider school community input in naming a facility. A committee was formed to examine options and forward a recommendation to the Board of Education. The committee included Ms. Jill Bullo, Principal, Wheaton North High School, Mr. Matt Biscan, Assistant Principal, Wheaton North High School, Mr. Dan Korntheuer, Wheaton North High School Social Studies Department Chair, Mr. Paul Herbert, Executive Director of the 1st Division Museum at Cantigny, Mr. Phil Cecil, parent and Wheaton North High School graduate, Mr. John Glotzbach, Executive Council, Congressional Medal of Honor Society, and Dr. Robert Rammer, Assistant Superintendent.

The Committee was unanimous in its objective to perpetuate the values and characteristics that are embodied in a Medal of Honor recipient, namely, Courage, Commitment, Sacrifice, Patriotism, Integrity, and Citizenship.

The Committee was also unanimous in its four-pronged recommendation:

1. Wheaton North High School is a Congressional Medal of Honor School and part of that distinction supports a curriculum that includes the tenants of the six Medal of Honor pillars. This content will be embedded and taught within the social studies courses at Wheaton North High School.
2. Robert Miller was honored by the planting of a tree and commemorative plaque in Wheaton North's Memorial Garden, where other fallen graduates who served and died in the Armed Services are remembered.
3. A perpetuating scholarship is being explored in Sgt. Miller's name for future Wheaton North graduates.

It is the recommendation of the Committee that the Commons at Wheaton North High School be named the Robert J. Miller Commons. This would include a plaque recognizing Sgt. Miller's award and bravery, circled by the 6 pillars that represent the Congressional Medal of Honor. The area would be dedicated during the Veteran's Day events in November.

#### **MOTION**

Member Intihar moved, Member Knicker seconded to approve naming the WNHS Commons The Robert J. Miller Commons. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

#### Acceptance of 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. The Board previously appointed Member Intihar as the delegate to represent District 200 at the Delegate Assembly on November 19, 2011. Board members reviewed the resolutions and directed Member Intihar to vote at the delegate assembly in support of the IASB recommendations on all of the resolutions except items 1 and 15. On those items the Board directed Member Intihar to vote to adopt if the items come up for a vote.

#### **MOTION**

Member Johnson moved, Member Knicker seconded to direct Member Intihar to vote in support of the IASB resolution recommendations with the exception of items 1 and 15. If these items are brought up for action, Member Intihar will vote to adopt them. Upon a roll call vote being taken, the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0. **The motion carried 7-0.**

#### **DISCUSSION ITEM**

##### Appointment/Reappointment/Affirmation of Legal Counsel, Architects, Auditors

Dr. Harris discussed the process that would be used to seek RFP's for these services. Typically this is done because the district is not happy with the current vendor, or it has been a long time since the district went through an RFP process for the services. This is a very lengthy process

and requires a considerable amount of time for both staff and board members. It is never recommended to change just for the sake of change. If a change is made there will be costs for the crossover and time to get the new vendor up to speed on issues and historical information. The most important question should be does this fit into the goals for the given year? Dr. Harris does not advise doing all three services at the same time. The Board discussed the options and process.

Staff recommendation is to proceed with the auditor RFP process to begin this January. This fits in with the goal to work towards fiscal stability. The financial committee will be used to screen the submitted RFP's before bringing them to the entire Board.

Staff recommendation on the legal counsel RFP is to consider waiting until another year. This year is negotiations and it would be difficult to change law firms during that process. The Board requested that staff get pricing from the current and several other firms for comparison, but not proceed with an RFP at this time.

The architect RFP's cannot ask for pricing. Architect decisions must be based on quality of work and satisfaction level. If there is satisfaction with the current vendor, some Board members do not see a reason to move forward with an RFP process.

The consensus of the Board is to begin looking while being sensitive to the time required. Begin the auditor process now and possibly consider the legal services for next year. The architect RFP process is about quality, not pricing. There has been nothing that the district has not been happy with; the architects have always come in on time and under budget. Several years ago the district was using two architects and Legat proved to be the best of the two and that is why the district uses them now.

Dr. Harris stated that performance contracting might be an option to consider for renovations.

Staff will move forward with the auditor RFP this year. The finance committee will be directly engaged in that process. The RFP process for the law firm will be looked at next fall if it fits the goals for next year and the architects will be situational.

Member Intihar stated that the RFP discussions need to take place at the goal setting discussions in the spring or summer. Member Gambaiani stated that he feels it is healthy to go through the RFP process. It keeps the Board sharp and thinks it is incumbent on the Board to take those steps and do due diligence for the stake holders. Member Gambaiani would like to see a timeline developed for the RFP process.

## **WRITTEN REPORTS**

### FOIA Report

This report was provided for information only.

## **REPORTS FROM BOARD MEMBERS**

### Board Committee Reports

Members Coghill and Vroman reported on the Capital Development Plan Committee meeting. The notes from that meeting are available on the district web site. Mr. Vroman stated that there was mention of adding a plan to consider looking at Woodland and the SSC with the Jefferson discussion. Dr. Harris stated that staff will look into these ideas and it will all be part of the presentation at the October 26 Committee of the Whole on the Capital Development Plan.

Dr. Harris reported on a preliminary discussion regarding stadium enhancements proposed for WWSHS by a citizen group. More information will be brought to the Board at a later date.

The Finance Committee is scheduled for October 21 and the Policy Committee is in the process of scheduling a meeting.

Other Board Reports

None

**TOPICS FOR FUTURE DISCUSSION**

Capital Development Plan

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Legislative Breakfast – October 14, 2011, 7:30 AM at SSC

Chat with the Board – October 24, 2011, 4:00 PM at WNHS

Committee of the Whole – October 26, 2011, 7:30 PM at SSC

**NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

November 9, 2011 – Edison Middle School

**PUBLIC COMMENTS – Non-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	Mark Stern
Topic	FOIA

**CLOSED SESSION**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**MOTION**

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Intihar moved, Member Coghill seconded to adjourn the meeting. Upon a voice call vote being taken, all were in favor and **the motion carried 7-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:43 PM.

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**Ken Knicker, Secretary**

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**Rosemary Swanson, President**