

Minutes of the Regular Discussion Meeting
of the Board of Education
Community Unit School District 201
Westmont, DuPage County, Illinois

September 9, 2008

A dinner for new CUSD 201 teachers was held in the Commons of Westmont High School beginning at 6:00 p.m. In attendance were the new teachers, WTA officers, members of the Administrative Team, and the Board of Education. At approximately 7:05 p.m., the Board of Education convened to the auditorium of the High School to begin the meeting.

President Elizabeth Durrani called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present: Cathy Casey, Patrick Duffy, Elizabeth Durrani, Kathleen Forzley, Linda Kelly, Kathy Lubeck, and Robert Zapinski.

Also attending the meeting were Superintendent's Secretary Judy McMahan, Business Manager Maureen Jones, and Superintendent Steven Baule.

Public Presentation

Pastor Shawn DuFault of the Westmont Alliance Church addressed the Board of Education about access to school district facilities by non-curricular clubs. He stated that he would like to organize a Good News Club at Manning School. He explained that the program emphasizes moral and character building issues from a Christian perspective, and would be supervised by two adults. He added that the school site was chosen because the focus of the program would mainly be interested CUSD 201 students.

Consent Agenda

Ms. Durrani informed the Board of Education that Item No. 1 of the Consent Agenda, Personnel Recommendations, had been amended to include the hiring of three additional individuals and the retirement request of an additional staff member.

Motion by Mr. Duffy to approve the Consent Agenda as amended.

1. Personnel Recommendations
2. Approval of Revised 2008-2009 Board Meeting Schedule
3. Application of Recognition of Schools

Voting aye: Casey, Duffy, Durrani, Forzley, Kelly, Lubeck, and Zapinski

Voting nay: None

Motion carried.

Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Baule reviewed the following discussion items with the Board of Education:

Beginning of School

It was reported that the 2008-2009 school year got off to a good start. It was also reported that the main focus of the August Institute Days was MAP and AIMSWeb training and academic vocabulary.

Construction Projects

The Board of Education was provided an update on the District's construction projects, including the Junior High School's office renovations and the installation of fans in the school's gymnasium, the installation of Miller School's ADA compliant playground equipment, Manning School's boiler project, and the signage for both the Junior and Senior High Schools. It was reported that most projects were complete or near completion.

Facilities Committee

It was reported that the Facilities Committee continues to meet; the most recent meeting being held on September 3, 2008. The minutes of the August 20, 2008, meeting of the Facilities Committee were shared with the Board of Education

Pre-School Screening

It was reported that the first pre-school screening of the 2008-2009 school year was held on September 4, 2008, and as a result the numbers for the Early Childhood Program continue to increase.

Access to Non-Curricular Clubs

It was reported that a non-curricular club had requested the use of the Manning School facilities. A discussion then ensued regarding Board Policy No. 8:20, Use of School Facilities, and the interpretation of that policy in regard to the payment of rental fees. It was reported that currently

the Girl Scouts use the Manning facilities without charge. Dr. Baule emphasized the importance of treating all groups the same and the importance of following Board policy.

It was generally agreed to determine a rental rate that would cover the school district's costs for the use of school facilities for after school programs for CUSD 201 students.

Sixth Day Enrollment

A summary of the sixth day enrollment figures as compared with last year's Kasarda A and B projections was shared with the Board of Education.

Class Size Information

The Board of Education was provided an analysis of class sizes in draft format for both Manning and Miller Elementary Schools. It was reported that no class size issues had been identified for either Westmont Junior or Senior High Schools, and that class sizes at both elementary schools were now more balanced. Dr. Baule then reviewed what class sizes would be at South School if the facility remained open. Due to a lack of classroom space, if South were still open, at least one class at South would have 30 or more students. He added that the official enrollment data is based on October 1, 2008.

Bilingual Program

It was reported that Kelly Baas, principal of Miller Elementary School, had contacted the Illinois State Board of Education about the possible need for a bilingual program at Miller School. Currently, 21 Miller School students were eligible for bilingual services.

Fox News Broadcast

The Board of Education was informed that members of the Westmont High School band and HOPE Club will assist with a food drive on September 18, 2008, between the hours of 7:00 a.m. and 8:00 a.m. at the Jewel Food Store on Ogden Avenue and the event will be covered by Fox News Chicago.

Response to Intervention (RTI)

A Summary of the RTI process in draft format was shared with the Board of Education. The Board was informed that these changes in special education legislation must be fully in place by the 2010 school year.

Teacher Handbook

A copy of the recently revised Teacher Handbook was shared with the Board of Education. Dr. Baule thanked the many staff members who were instrumental in bringing this long overdue revision to fruition.

Recent FOIA Requests

Two recent Freedom of Information Act requests (FOIA) were shared with the Board of Education.

Alliance Legislative Update

The August 28, 2008, edition of the Alliance Legislative Report was shared with the Board of Education.

Board Reports

Ms. Casey provided the Board of Education with information about the second annual St. Jude's Walk Run & Roll fundraiser scheduled for September 13, 2007, from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at Ty Warner Park. Ms. Casey thanked Mr. Carr, principal of Westmont High School, and the High School's National Honor Society for their involvement in this fundraising project for St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital and encouraged everyone to participate.

Mr. Zapinski commented about his participation on the school district's Facilities Committee. He stated that the members of the committee were basically encouraged to provide a wish list of what they imagined the best educational facility would be. Mr. Zapinski remarked that there were no limitations on the input gathered, but it will be a tough process grappling with the choices that must be made.

Ms. Casey commented about the Junior High School's office renovations. She stated that the project was very well thought out, and as a result the space was more functional, secure, and a vast improvement over the previous office layout.

Ms. Durrani remarked that the true test of how beneficial the installation of ceiling fans was at both the Junior and Senior High Schools will be at the graduation ceremonies.

Alive At 25 Course

Dr. Baule called the Board's attention to a letter from Mr. Carr outlining the requirements for purchasing a parking pass at the High School and the consequences for violating

the parking pass policy. A discussion then ensued regarding the proposed fee for a parking pass violation. It was generally agreed that the proposed \$25 fee was too high and should be set at \$15.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Duffy to adjourn at 8:00 p.m.

Motion unanimously passed.

Elizabeth J. Durrani
President, Board of Education
School District No. 201
Westmont, DuPage County, Illinois

Robert P. Zapinski
Secretary, Board of Education
School District No. 201
Westmont, DuPage County, Illinois