

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

January 27, 2009

President Elizabeth Durrani called the meeting to order at 6:31 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.

Fine Arts Presentation

Grant Sahr, Westmont High School's vocal music instructor, and Sue Ellen Greer, the High School's art/technology teacher, provided the Board of Education with a presentation on the use of technology integration in digital photography by the digital photography class at the High School.

Student Recognition

The 2009 Illinois State Scholars were presented to the Board of Education for recognition. Mr. Carr, principal of Westmont High School, reported that 16 students had been awarded this distinction; however, because of an athletic conflict not all were able to attend the meeting. Those unable to attend would be recognized at a later date. Mr. Carr then introduced Carole Wrosteck, high school guidance counselor, who provided a brief biographical overview of each student's accomplishments, as well as their future plans. Congratulatory remarks were made on behalf of the Board of Education and each student was presented a resolution honoring their achievement.

Approval of Minutes

Motion by Mr. Duffy to approve the minutes of the December 16, 2008, regular meeting of the Board of Education as presented.

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

Voting nay: None

Abstaining: Forzley

Motion carried.

Motion by Ms. Casey to approve the minutes of the closed session of the December 16, 2008, regular meeting of the Board of Education as presented.

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

Voting nay: None

Abstaining: Forzley

Motion carried.

Motion by Mr. Duffy to approve the minutes of the January 13, 2009, regular meeting of the Board of Education as presented.

Motion unanimously passed.

Public Presentation

No visitors addressed the Board of Education.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Duffy requested an explanation of Item No. 2 of the Consent Agenda, Award of GASB (Government Accounting Standards Board) 45 Contract.

Ms. Jones explained that in compliance with GASB 45 the school district was required to utilize actuarial consulting services for the purpose of estimating post-retirement benefit obligations.

Motion by Mr. Zapinski to approve the Consent Agenda as amended:

- 1) Personnel Recommendations
- 2) Award of GASB 45 Contract
- 3) Resolution to Dispose of District Property
- 4) Ratification of Regular Payroll

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

Voting nay: None

Motion carried.

2009-2010 School Calendar

Dr. Baule reviewed three calendar options for the 2009-2010 school year with the Board Education: Option A, Option B, and Option C. In addition, he reviewed the Regional Office of Education's recommended calendar for the 2009-2010 school year as well as the 2008-2009 school calendars of other DuPage County school districts.

A discussion then ensued regarding the calendar options, which focused primarily on administering final exams at the High School before the winter break. Concerns were expressed regarding heat issues for the non-air-conditioned elementary buildings and conflicts with athletic schedules. It was generally agreed that Option C with a student start date of Wednesday, August 19, 2009, would be the most viable option.

Motion by Mr. Duffy to approve calendar Option C as the 2009-2010 School Calendar as presented.

Motion unanimously approved.

Superintendent's Report

Dr. Baule reviewed the following discussion items with the Board of Education:

Sentinel Review Sessions

It was reported that approximately one-half of the High School's student body participated in the review sessions organized by the High School's PBIS Team. Dr. Baule complimented the High School staff for their efforts.

WHS Assessment Review

It was reported that an assessment review of the High School's final exams was currently being conducted by a testing consultant.

Mr. Zapinski asked what the purpose of the assessment review was.

Dr. Baule responded that the purpose of the assessment review was to accurately assess learning as well as the strengths of instruction. He added that the assessment review would benefit both the teacher and the student.

Dr. Baule also reported that he attended a recent Regional Office of Education workshop, along with other area superintendents and local legislators, which focused on common needs for effective assessment instruments.

Student Service Opportunities

It was reported that Westmont High School Assistant Principal Nancy Bartosz, along with other staff, has been working to increase service learning opportunities for our high school students. A letter outlining these opportunities was shared with the Board of Education. Dr. Baule complimented Ms. Bartosz for her efforts.

Early Childhood Programming

Dr. Baule reported that he had been working with a number of area school districts and the SASSED cooperative for the purpose of creating a joint resource sharing opportunity for Early Childhood and First Start programs. Dr. Baule indicated that due to the low CPI (Consumer Price Index) the school districts are now hesitant to move forward with the program. A discussion then ensued regarding options for CUSD 201 students in this regard.

Bilingual Kindergarten

It was reported that work continues on implementing a full day kindergarten opportunity for bilingual (Spanish) students for the 2009-2010 school year.

School Calendar Change for 2008-2009

It was reported that due to the December 19, 2008, snow day the last of school for the current school year now becomes June 10, 2009. It was also reported that the calendar would be officially amended at the June Board meeting.

Audio Tape for January 13, 2009, Meeting

It was reported that no audio recording of the January 13, 2009, Board meeting was available due to a problem with the flash drive.

Alliance Legislative Report

The January 14, 2009, edition of the Alliance Legislative Reports was shared with the Board of Education.

Board Reports

No Board reports were provided

Special Education

Mr. Duffy, the Board’s representative to SASSED’s Board of Control, had nothing to report.

Non-Personnel Statements

The Non-Personnel Statements were presented to the Board of Education.

Fund Balance Reports

The Fund Asset, Fund Liability, and Fund Balance Reports were presented to the Board of Education.

2008-2009 Budget Evaluation

A report comparing the current percentage of revenues and expenditures for the 2008-2009 school year with the averages of actual percentages for the prior three school years were presented to the Board of Education.

Expense Report

Motion by Mr. Duffy to approve the bills for the month of January 2009 as presented in Attachment No. F-4 in the amount of \$1,937,086.31.

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

Voting nay: None

Motion carried.

Financial Projection Update

Mr. Mike Frances of PMA Network, Incorporated, the school district's financial consultants, provided the Board of Education with an update on CUSD 201's five-year financial projections. Mr. Frances indicated that 140 school districts throughout the state of Illinois use this tool to assist them in making financial decisions. Both Business Manager Maureen Jones and Mr. Frances entertained questions from the Board of Education.

Closed Session

Motion by Mr. Duffy to enter closed session at 8:40 p.m. for the purpose of discussing confidential student issues, confidential personnel issues, and pending litigation.

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

Voting nay: None

Motion carried.

The Board of Education returned from closed session at 8:52 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Duffy to adjourn at 8:57 p.m.

Motion unanimously passed.

Elizabeth J. Durrani
President, Board of Education
Community Unit School District 201
Westmont, DuPage County, Illinois

Robert P. Zapinski
Secretary, Board of Education
Community Unit School District 201
Westmont, DuPage County, Illinois