

**PUBLIC PACKET**

**BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**

**FEBRUARY 10, 2009**



Serving families of Westmont, Clarendon Hills & Downers Grove

February 6, 2009

Board of Education  
Community Unit School District 201  
Westmont, Illinois

Dear Board Members:

The next regular meeting of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 201 will be held on Tuesday, February 10, 2009, at 7:00 p.m. in the auditorium of Westmont High School located at 909 North Oakwood Drive, Westmont, Illinois.

### AGENDA

- A) Call to Order & Roll Call
- B) Student Recognition
- C) Public Comment
- D) Administration
  - 1) Consent Agenda
    - 1) Personnel Recommendations
    - 2) Policy First Readings and Adoptions
    - 3) Policy First Readings
    - 4) Release of Closed Session Minutes and Destruction of Audio Tapes
    - 5) Approval of Medical/Dental Insurance Rates
  - 2) Annual Report on Library Programs
  - 3) Approval of Library Automation Contract
  - 4) Superintendent's Report
  - 5) Board Reports
- E) Closed Session
- F) Adjournment

ATTACHMENT NO. D-1:

Consent Agenda

- 1) Personnel Recommendations
- 2) Policy First Readings and Adoptions
- 3) Policy First Readings
- 4) Release of Closed Session Minutes and  
Destruction of Audio Recordings
- 5) Approval of Medical/Dental Insurance Rates

Suggested motion:

I move approval of the Consent Agenda as presented.

(Adoption of the Consent Agenda items by the Board of Education means that all items appearing in this section are adopted by one single motion, unless a member of the Board or the Superintendent requests an item be removed to be considered separately or amended. A roll call vote must be taken on this agenda item.)

Recommended action:

Approve as presented.  
**(ROLL CALL)**

ATTACHMENT NO. D-1: Consent Agenda

2. Policy First Readings and Adoptions

Suggested motion:

Waive the reading of Policies 2:220, 4:60, 5:90, 5:150, 5:240, 5:290, 6:60, 6:120, 7:10, 7:20, 7:50, 7:100, and 7:291; and approve the adoption of Policies 2:220, 4:60, 5:90, 5:150, 5:240, 5:290, 6:60, 6:120, 7:10, 7:20, 7:50, 7:100, and 7:291 as presented.

**RELATED INFORMATION:**

Members of the Policy/Communications Committee (Cathy Casey and Kathy Lubeck) met on January 22, 2009, to review the following polices recommended by the Illinois Association of School Boards for adoption and/or revision. These policies are now being recommended to the Board at large for adoption based on the need to comply with statute.

- 2:220 Board of Education Meeting Procedures
- 4:60 Purchases and Contracts
- 5:90 Abused and Neglected Child Reporting
- 5:150 Personnel Records
- 5:240 Suspension
- 5:290 Employment Termination and Suspensions
- 6:60 Curriculum Content
- 6:120 Education of Children with Disabilities
- 7:10 Equal Educational Opportunities
- 7:20 Harassment of Students Prohibited
- 7:50 School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools
- 7:100 Health and Dental Examinations, Immunizations, and Exclusion of Students
- 7:291 Adolescent Suicide Awareness and Prevention Programs

ATTACHMENT NO. D-1: Consent Agenda

3. Policy First Readings

Suggested motion:

Waive the first reading of Policies 6:230, 7:240, 7:300, 8:20, and 8:25; and approve the first reading of Policies 6:230, 7:240, 7:300, 8:20, and 8:25 as presented.

**RELATED INFORMATION:**

The following polices were also reviewed by the Policy Committee on January 22; however, they require a second reading before their adoption:

- 6:230 Library Media Program
- 7:240 Conduct Code for Participants in Extracurricular Activities
- 7:300 Extracurricular Athletics
- 8:20 Community Use of School Facilities
- 8:25 Advertising and Distributing Materials in Schools Provided by Non-School Related Entities

ATTACHMENT NO. D-1: Consent Agenda

4. Release of Closed Session Minutes and  
Destruction of Closed Session Audio Recordings

Suggested motion: Approve the release of the closed session minutes and  
destruction of closed session audio recordings as presented.

**RELATED INFORMATION:**

Included on the agenda for the January 22 Policy Committee meeting was the review of closed session minutes for possible disclosure. As a result of that review, the following closed session minutes are being recommended for release and the destruction of audio recordings made prior to June 30, 2007:

- September 12, 2006
- October 24, 2006
- March 13, 2007

Copies of these minutes will be available for your inspection at Tuesday's meeting.

ATTACHMENT NO. D-2: Annual Report on Library Programs  
Suggested motion: Informational Item  
Recommended action: Hear the report.

**RELATED INFORMATION:**

As we have done in the past, CUSD 201 applied for grant money available through the Illinois School Library Grant Program. Linda Houle, Westmont Junior High School's media director, began applying for this grant several years ago, and she will join us at the meeting to review the elements of this grant program. We have not yet been notified by the Secretary of State of the exact amount of the award, but generally it would amount to about 72 to 75 cents per student. These funds will ultimately be distributed and utilized throughout the District for various media purchases. A public presentation is a component of this grant process and Tuesday evening's presentation meets this grant requirement.

Attached for your review is a draft of the updated five-year Library Media Plan.

ATTACHMENT NO. D-3: Approval of Library Automation Contract

Suggested motion: I move approval of the purchase of the Alexandria Library Automation software package by COMpanion Corporation of Salt Lake City, Utah, in the amount of \$15, 714.59 as presented.

Recommended action: Approve as presented.  
**(ROLL CALL)**

**RELATED INFORMATION:**

Nancy Battaglia and the library media specialists have spent a significant amount of energy during the last six months determining our needs relative to a library automation program and researching the various options available.

Automating the library collections will provide students, staff and parents better access to the materials available. It will better prepare students to use local public library collections as well. The new system will also provide Lexile information for students and parents. Most districts automated their libraries in the early 1990s. I know this has been a long term dream for Linda Houle and Randi Gallagher who have worked in the district's libraries for many years.

ATTACHMENT NO. D-4: Superintendent's Report  
Suggested motion: Informational Item  
Recommended action: Hear the report.

### **African American History Month Presentation**

Lena Newton spent two and a half days in the district last week speaking about the heroes and unsung heroes of the Civil Rights Movement. She was able to speak with the WHS history classes and conducted assemblies at the other schools. I believe that the students found her to be a compelling speaker. A special thanks to Jeremy Bautista who organized Mrs. Newton's trip and worked to assemble the necessary funding and support. Thanks also to Larry Forsberg from the Chamber for helping Jeremy obtain sponsors.

### **PBIS 9th Grade Transition Program**

Once more, the PBIS process yields results for WHS. For the last two years, WHS staff has worked hard to identify the at risk students in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade class and ensure they make a successful transition to high school. Most students who are unsuccessful in high school begin their struggles in 9<sup>th</sup> grade. In 2003, nearly 16% of freshmen failed one or more courses. Since the interventions of the PBIS transition program in 2007, the number of failures has dropped 44%. This year, 91% of freshman passed all of their first semester courses due to a range of intervention strategies provided by the WHS staff.

### **WHS 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Orientation**

WHS held their 8<sup>th</sup> grade parent orientation evening on Tuesday, February 3. They again conducted an extracurricular opportunities fair as part of the evening to hopefully get all incoming students to participate in at least one club or sport.

### **WHS Assessment Review**

The WHS staff is continuing to review their final exams. I spoke to them about the item analysis process on the February 4 SIP day.

### **Special Education Numbers**

This year, according to the SASSED December 1, 2008, special education census, we have the highest percentage of special needs students within the 18 districts in the SASSED cooperative; 17.59% of our students have IEPs. District 20 is next with 17.56%. The cooperative average is 15.51%.

### **Drug Free Schools Award**

Manning School obtained a \$500 grant for programming from the DuPage County State's Attorney. Dawn Dispensa and Toni Gunter are the club sponsors.

### **Social Studies CAC**

The Social Studies CAC held its second meeting. The minutes are attached.

### **New COD President**

The ROE hosted a meeting with Robert Breuder, the newly appointed President of the College of DuPage, and superintendents to discuss common areas of concern and potential action. Dr. Breuder was previously the president of Harper College.


### **Alliance Legislative Report**

Attached is the most recent Alliance Legislative Update.

# Next Steps in Classroom Assessment


## Assessment Background

- Identified in my earliest interactions with teachers as a concern
- Strategic plan also identified the need to review assessments
  - ◆ Assessment Committee worked to review the program level assessments
- CAC's have spoken for the need for common assessments
- Clearly identified as a need in SIPs




## Overview

- Working towards a "balanced" model of assessment
  - ◆ Rick Stiggins's work in this area is important
- Institutional Accountability
  - ◆ Standardized Testing (PSAE, ISAT)
- Program Improvement
  - ◆ MAP, AIMSWeb, AP Exams, etc.
- Classroom Improvement
  - ◆ Final Exams
  - ◆ Common Assessments
  - ◆ Tests, quizzes, etc.




## Program Improvement

- Allows administrators, department coordinators, etc. to see trends across groups of students
- Helps determine the need for and effectiveness of programs
- AIMSWeb, MAP, etc. also provide useful information on individual students




## Classroom Assessment

- Measure what students have learned
- Determine what instruction comes next
- Encourage students to try to learn
- Can provide significant improvement in student learning
  - ◆ Gains show 0.5 to 1.0 of a SD
  - ◆ The SD of the ACT is 4.7




## Why Start with Final Exams?

- Several instructional design models strongly favor all assessments based on or from the final end of course/term exam



## Item Analysis

1. What did students learn?
  - ◆ What did they learn well?
  - ◆ What did they struggle with?
2. How can I modify instruction to improve learning



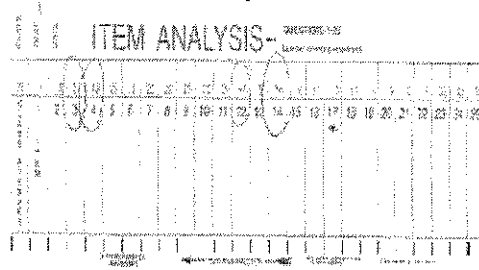
# Next Steps in Classroom Assessment

## Item Analysis, cont.



- Sort of a Goldilocks meets psychometrics
- Which questions are too hard?
- Which questions are too easy?
- Which questions are "just right"?

## Sample



- Number of wrong answers for each item

## Review the Analysis

- Look for obvious outliers\*
  - ◆ More than 50% of students gave the wrong answer
  - ◆ 10% or less of students answered the questions incorrectly
- Look for reasons
  - ◆ Testing issues
  - ◆ Instructional issues
- Determine how to change / improve for the future



## Sample: All students got the question correct

- 7. Which of the following men was not president?
  - ◆ 1. George Washington
  - ◆ 2. Abe Lincoln
  - ◆ 3. Daffy Duck
  - ◆ 4. Bill Clinton



## Sample: 75% of students answered incorrectly

- 18. Which of the following was not a cause of the War of 1812?
  - ◆ 1. British Impressment
  - ◆ 2. Citizen Genet
  - ◆ 3. US desire for Canadian territory
  - ◆ 4. British support of Native tribes



## Next Step

- Review of the test(s)
  - ◆ Showing which questions raised concerns
  - ◆ What type of concern(s) for each question
  - ◆ What is(are) the remedy(ies) for each





## Social Studies Curriculum Advisory Council

January 28, 2009

12:30 – 3:30 p.m.

### MINUTES

- Minutes of the previous meeting were reviewed and accepted with one minor name change.
- Most topic maps were completed and submitted. The remaining few maps that were not completed will be sent to Christy before the next meeting. Thanks, everyone, for your efforts!
- Thought provoking dialogue occurred regarding articles read for discussion. Topics included multicultural education, social justice, primary sources, differentiated instruction, civic efficacy, curriculum design specifically (*UBD*), and historical perspectives on social studies teaching practices.
- Action items:
  - Jill and Peter will research social studies programs including *History Alive*. Information, and possibly samples, will be brought back to the committee at the *March* meeting.
  - Christy will invite Sandy Baker, consultant on civic education, to attend a CAC meeting this year.
  - Please read the short article on primary sources and Web 2.0. Think about: How can we integrate Web 2.0 tools into our curriculum design?
- Next Meeting: February 26 @ 8:30 – 11:30 a.m. – Community Room

ATTACHMENT NO. D-5:	Board Reports
Suggested motion:	Informational Item
Recommended action:	Hear the report.

**RELATED INFORMATION:**

Finance Committee

Policy/Communications Committee

Buildings and Grounds Committee

ATTACHMENT NO. E-5: Closed Session

Suggested motion: I move approval for the Board of Education to enter closed session for the purpose of discussing confidential student issues, confidential personnel issues, and pending litigation.

Recommended action: Approve as presented.  
**(ROLL CALL)**

**RELATED INFORMATION:**

It would be appropriate at this time to enter closed session to discuss confidential student issues, confidential personnel issues, and pending litigation.