

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

May 5, 2009

President Pro Tem Linda Kelly called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

Roll Call

Members present: Cathy Casey, Daniel Charleston, Marie Charlton, Linda Kelly, Kathy Lubeck, Joel Price, and Diann Thomas.

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

Public Comment

Robert Zapinski, CUSD 201 resident and former Board of Education member, addressed the Board of Education about erroneous information regarding CUSD 201 test scores that appeared in a TribLocal article written by Mr. Knight Charlton. Mr. Zapinski stated that Mr. Charlton had been notified that his information was incorrect, yet he continued to use the incorrect data. Mr. Zapinski asked how Mr. Charlton would be held accountable and how the Board intended to repair the damage caused by Mr. Charlton to the students and staff of the School District.

Election of Officers

Motion by Mr. Charleston to nominate Mrs. Charlton as Board of Education President for a two-year term.

Motion by Ms. Casey to nominate Mrs. Lubeck as Board of Education President for a two-year term.

Mrs. Lubeck read a statement from the Illinois Association of School Boards regarding the role and function of the Board president.

Ms. Casey stated that it would be more appropriate for an experienced Board member to hold this office.

Mr. Charleston remarked that he could appreciate past history, but he had every confidence in Mrs. Charlton.

Ms. Kelly stated that a more experienced Board member is necessary for the office of president not only because of their experience as a CUSD 201 Board member, but also

because of their experience working with the county and the state of Illinois.

Voting for Mrs. Charlton: Charleston, Charlton, Price, and Thomas

Voting for Mrs. Lubeck: Casey, Kelly, and Lubeck

Mrs. Charlton prevailed.

Mrs. Charlton then accepted nominations for the office of Board of Education Vice President.

Motion by Mrs. Lubeck to nominate Ms. Kelly as Board of Education Vice President for a two-year term.

Motion by Mr. Price to nominate Mrs. Thomas as Board of Education Vice President for a two-year term.

Voting for Ms. Kelly: Casey

Voting for Mrs. Thomas: Charlton, Kelly, Lubeck, Price, Thomas, and Charleston

Mrs. Thomas prevailed.

Mrs. Charlton then accepted nominations for the office of Board of Education Secretary.

Motion by Ms. Kelly to nominate Ms. Casey as Board of Education Secretary for a two-year term.

Voting aye: Kelly, Lubeck, Price, Thomas, Casey, Charleston, and Charlton

Voting nay: None

Motion carried.

Motion by Mrs. Charlton to nominate Judy McMahon to continue as recording secretary for the Board of Education.

Voting aye: Lubeck, Price, Thomas, Casey, Charleston, Charlton, and Kelly

Voting nay: None

Motion carried.

Board Committee Structure

The Board of Education reviewed the structure of the Board of Education’s three standing committees: Finance, Policy/Communication, and Buildings and Grounds. It was generally agreed that the Committee members would be as follows:

Finance Committee

Daniel Charleston and Linda Kelly

Policy/Communication Committee

Cathy Casey and Joel Price

Buildings and Grounds Committee

Kathy Lubeck and Diann Thomas

Board Meeting

Mrs. Charlton stated that several additional Board meeting dates were being proposed in addition to those being recommended to the Board of Education for approval. A review of the proposed meeting dates then took place. A discussion then ensued regarding how beneficial the additional meetings would be to the Board at large. Consideration was given to the needs of the incoming Board members, the ability of the Administration Office staff to schedule vacation time during the summer months, Board member orientation sessions, the Board meeting schedules of other school districts, and to ensure that the School District’s business is done in an efficient manner.

Dr. Baule added that the WTA requested to change the location of the Board meetings to the Community Room of Manning Elementary School because of conflicts with the use of the Westmont High School auditorium.

Motion by Mrs. Thomas that the next meeting of the Community Unit School District 201 Board of Education be held on May 19, 2009, and that the regular meetings hereafter be held as identified on the Notice of Schedule of Regular Meetings of the Board of Education as amended.

Motion unanimously passed.

**SASED and IASB
Representatives**

Motion by Mr. Price to appoint Joel Price as Community Unit School District 201’s representative to the SASED (School Association for Special Education in DuPage) Board of Control and Daniel Charleston as an alternate.

Motion unanimously passed.

Motion by Ms. Kelly to appoint Linda Kelly as Community Unit School District 201's IASB (Illinois Association of School Boards) delegate representative.

Motion unanimously passed.

Ms. Kelly asked if it was necessary to appoint a delegate to IASB's DuPage Division at this time.

Dr. Baule responded no. He added that Mr. Zapinski, who had served in this capacity, had been approached to do so by the IASB.

Superintendent's Report

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

Legal Update for Board Members

Information was shared with the Board of Education regarding an upcoming workshop being presented by Franczek Radelet & Rose, the School District's legal counsel. Board members interested in attending were asked to contact Judy McMahon.

SASED Overview

It was reported that Dr. Volpe, executive director of SASED, had scheduled an overview of the SASED cooperative for Board of Education members on June 15, 2009. Board members interested in attending were asked to contact Dr. Baule.

Instrumental Music Proposal

A proposal to expand instrumental music to fourth grade and to reestablish sectional courses at the Junior High School was presented to the Board of Education for review. The proposal was prepared by band instructors Matthew Bufis and Linnea Nemec.

A discussion ensued regarding the viability of the proposal considering current District finances and interest in the program at the Junior High School. Ms. Casey requested more information regarding the number of junior high students currently enrolled in the band program and previous enrollment numbers as well.

Dr. Baule commented that currently a list of cost containment measures was being compiled by the Administrative Team and staff members.

Mr. Price asked if the list had been completed and, if so, if it could be available for review before the next Board meeting.

Dr. Baule stated that as soon as the Administrative Team reviewed and finalized the list it would then be presented to the Board of Education for consideration.

Federal Funding

It was reported that SASSED, the school district's special education cooperative, would be the administrative agent for the federal economic stimulus funding that CUSD 201 would receive for the IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act) and preschool IDEA programs. It was also reported that State Superintendent Chris Koch recently announced that General State Aid payments might also be made from federal stimulus funds.

Comparable Districts

The Board of Education was asked to articulate which schools and/or school districts it would like the staff to use as comparatives when presenting information to the Board of Education in the future.

Board Reports

No reports were presented.

Comments

Mrs. Charlton asked if either the new or the old Board members had any comments to make.

Mrs. Lubeck welcomed the incoming members of the Board of Education. She then read a statement focusing on the role of a school board member and reminding the Board members that they should not interfere with the day-to-day work of the staff. She also stated that she hoped the new Board members would honor the Strategic Plan that was created convened by the past Board.

Mr. Price thanked the supporters of ABetter201 and encouraged them to attend upcoming Board meetings. He stated that, while the new Board members did not have all the answers, they would effectively solicit community input. He also stated that the Board of Education should work in conjunction with the Village of Westmont to raise our schools to new heights.

Mr. Charleston thanked the retiring members of the Board of Education and those remaining on the Board. He stated that he was humbled and honored to serve as a Board

member, and that he would to push the School District in a new and exciting direction.

Mrs. Thomas also expressed her thanks and that she looked forward to a successful partnership.

Mrs. Charlton expressed her gratitude to all of the Board members that have served in the past. She then read a statement thanking those who had supported her and stated that she was honored to be elected as the Board president.

Public Comment

Mrs. Charlton then asked if there were any public comments.

There were none.

Amended 2008-2009 Budget

Mrs. Jones directed the Board members to her Executive Summary delineating the necessity for preparing an amended budget, which she then reviewed with the Board.

Mrs. Jones then entertained various questions from Mrs. Charlton, Mr. Charleston, and Ms. Casey regarding items outlined in her Executive Summary.

Motion by Mr. Charleston to approve the adoption of the Tentative Amended Budget for Fiscal year 2008-2009 as presented and that said budget be available for public inspection in the District's Business Office from May 6, 2009, until Board adoption on Tuesday, June 16, 2009.

Voting aye: Kelly, Lubeck, Price, Thomas, Casey, Charleston, and Charlton

Voting nay: None

Motion carried.

New Business

Mrs. Charlton asked if there was any new business to discuss.

There was none.

Other

Dr. Baule reviewed the following items that were included in the Board orange folders:

- 1) Board of Education E-mail Guidelines and Internet Issues in regards to the Open Meetings Act and the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA), provided by the School District's legal counsel.

- 2) Child Find Responsibilities article
- 3) Response to Intervention (RTI) article

Closed Session

Motion by Ms. Kelly to enter closed session at 8:19 p.m. for the purpose of discussing confidential personnel issues, collective bargaining, and pending litigation.

Voting aye: Lubeck, Price, Thomas, Casey, Charleston, Charlton, and Kelly

Voting nay: None

Motion carried.

The Board of Education returned from closed session at 9:32 p.m.

Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Charleston to adjourn at 9:32 p.m.

Motion unanimously passed.

Marie L. Charlton
President, Board of Education
School District No. 201
Westmont, DuPage County, Illinois

Cathy L. Casey
Secretary, Board of Education
School District No. 201
Westmont, DuPage County, Illinois