

Community Unit School District 200

Administration and School Service Center

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NOTICE

CITIZENS' ADVISORY COMMITTEE (CAC) MEETING

BOARD OF EDUCATION
DISTRICT 200
DUPAGE COUNTY, ILLINOIS

A Meeting of the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois will be held on Wednesday, October 18, 2023, at 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. at the School Service Center, 130 W. Park Ave, Wheaton, IL. The agenda of the meeting is as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes – September 20, 2023
4. Question of the Month
5. Full Day Kindergarten Discussion
6. Review and Discussion of Middle School Facilities Engagement
7. What is the Buzz?
8. Adjourn



Rob Hanlon

Board of Education, District 200



Superintendent of Schools, District 200

Community Unit School District 200 is subject to the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as well as Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Individuals with disabilities who plan to attend this meeting and who require certain accommodations in order to allow them to attend and/or participate, or who have questions regarding the accessibility of the meeting or the facilities, are requested to promptly contact the School District's ADA/Section 504 Coordinator at (630) 682-2000. TT/TDD Service is available through the above number.

Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC)

October 18, 2023 - Meeting at SSC

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by CAC Chair G. Biziarek
- This meeting was conducted in the BOE Room at the SSC.
- 30 CAC members were present for the meeting.
- Others present: Supt. Dr. Jeff Schuler, Asst. Supt. Dr. Chris Silagi, Asst. Supt. Dr. Brian O'Keeffe, Director of Community Engagement & Communications Erica Loiacono, Board Members Angela Blatner and Brad Paulsen.

Public Comment

- Mary Ann Vitone - Expenses, Middle Schools, etc.

Approval of Minutes from September 20, 2023

- Motion to approve the minutes: N. Mead; second: M. Kolisch. All in favor.
- The minutes of September 20, 2023, were approved.

Question of the Month

- Dr. Schuler noted the COPS/SVPP grant - a school safety-focused grant. Multiple facets to safety grants - student support, the infrastructure of schools themselves - physical infrastructure. Can apply for up to \$500K in the grant, matching funds out of local.
- Perfect circumstance - grant comes through. In the event that some of the work does need to be sequenced based on the outcome of the grant, the table groups were asked where they you prioritize these 5 areas:
 - Updated camera system at the HS level (indoor and outdoor)
 - Guest management system for all buildings
 - Camera system for exterior doors at the Elementary level
 - Updated door intercom systems for all main entrances
 - Keyless/FOB entry systems for identified exterior doors
- If you were to take those 5 areas, how would you prioritize the areas, with "1" - address first, "5" - address last.
- Discussed in table groups and submitted feedback forms.

Full-Day Kindergarten Discussion

- A recent update was given to the board regarding all-day Kindergarten.
- Will be bringing back to the board in November with a few options to consider.
- Asking for CAC input.
- Dr. Silagi and Dr. O'Keeffe provided a presentation, which included information on the following:
- Three guiding questions:
 - What are the enrollment trends and parent interest levels in All-Day Kindergarten programming?
 - What are the programming and space considerations for implementing a universal All-Day Kindergarten program?
 - What are the financial considerations for implementing a universal All-Day Kindergarten program?
- Definition of universal All-Day Kindergarten - an all-day program that is not tuition-based

- Drivers of conversation HB 2396
 - Beginning with 2027-28 school year, each school board must establish a kindergarten with full-day attendance.
- History of enrollment - numbers and percentages
 - In 2023-24 - 80% of Kindergarten students are enrolled in ADK and 20% in half-day.
- The number of Kindergarten programs (half-day and ADK at each building and in total)
 - Kindergarten programs - half-day sections offered at all schools; but at Madison and Johnson the numbers were so low, looked at other options. Parents had the option to permissive transfer. Some were absorbed in full-day programs and could leave halfway through the day.
- Half-Day Kindergarten Parent Interest Survey (117 responses)
 - Why did you choose to enroll in a half-day instead of the all-day program? (34% did not want to pay ADK tuition; 66% ADK tuition was not the reason; preferred child attend half-day for other reasons)
 - If all-day was offered free of tuition, would you have enrolled your child in the all-day program? (35% yes; 65% no)
- Programming Considerations (Class Size, Learning Acceleration, Specials: Art, Music)
 - Really small class sizes are not always beneficial
 - Learning Acceleration - a very short day for students
- Space Considerations (Maximized Space, Half-day to All-Day, Continue Monitoring)
 - Space considerations - we would have the space; half-day sessions would become full-day programs. Some specialists may have to move out of a classroom space.
- Comparable Districts
 - Naperville 203 and IPSD 204 > Universal All-Day Kindergarten
 - Barrington 220, Elmhurst 205, St Charles 303 > Tuition Based ADK
- Potential Options
 - Implement Universal ADK in 2024-25
 - De-escalate tuition rate over 3 years and implement Universal ADK in 2026-27
 - Continue to offer the same programming at same rate and then implement Universal ADK when it is mandated in 2027-28
- Financial Considerations (August 2024 Start*) *all are estimated financial considerations
 - Revenue Reduction and Revenue Gain
 - Expense Increase and Expense Decrease
 - Net Program Change > **-\$1,660,235**
- Financial Considerations (Phased Tuition Decrease*) *all are estimated financial considerations
 - Revenue Reduction and Revenue Gain
 - Expense Increase
 - Net Program Change (with \$2,000 Tuition in 24-25) > **-\$370,050**
 - Net Program Change (with \$1,000 Tuition in 25-26) > **787,050**
- Financial Considerations (August 2026 Start*) *all are estimated financial considerations
 - Revenue Reduction and Revenue Gain
 - Expense Increase and Expense Decrease
 - Net Program Change > **-\$1,702,224**
- Key Dates
 - Parent Interest and Registration - Late Fall/Winter
 - Updated 5-Year Financial Projections - January COW Meeting
 - Kindergarten Round-Up Parent Meetings - February

- Notification to ISBE - March 1
- Student Fee Schedule - March BOE Meeting
- Implement Universal ADK in 224-25: Other Budget Considerations
 - Math and Reading Interventionists and Coaches
 - Class Size
 - PACE
 - Behavioral Specialists
 - Club Offerings
 - Multilingual Support
 - Special Education Programming and Student Services Staff

There were questions and/or comments on the following:

- Would there still be an option to offer a half-day program? What options are there for that?
- Is the intent is to cover the cost of the program?
- In 2027-28, the program will have to be subsidized by the district.
- Increase in enrollment for ADK from students considered low-income? Yes
- ADK - More time in ELA and Math space - the rigor of those curriculums.
- Any data on full-day students performing better academically in grades 1-5? Typically, more time in core instructional subjects for kids will equate to improved learning.
- Students with risk factors - benefitted from a full-day vs half-day program.
- What is an optimal class size for Kindergarten? Where do you cap it? Cap it at 26; the average is 21 students.
- Stats on if students have gone to preschool - noted Camp Kinder - devoted for students that have never had a school experience and get them comfortable - less likely to have explosive behaviors. This year, D200 had 80 students attend Camp Kinder. Most of those children went into a full-day program
- Does a parent have the option to go to half-day within the new law? Do not know what is going to happen with that. Law requirements not known at this point.
- Parents do not have to send their children to Kindergarten.
- Staffing half-day sections.
- The million dollars plus impact on the budget - The need to look at what adjustments need to be made system-wise if over a million dollar impact is in the budget. Typically can manage any impact under the million mark within the existing budget.
- Do we know if we drop the tuition in phases, would the number of kids wanting in ADK increase, and how many of those are free/reduced?
- Phased approach - soften the blow - financial strategy.
- Do not foresee the shift making space an issue.
- Any housing developments that would mean a significant increase in students? - nothing significant like the Nokia, some developments on Route 59 (Warrenville) - seeing bigger numbers of students (like 10 kids).
- Currently the same curriculum for half-day as the full-day program - how would we accommodate that to ensure they are getting the same amount of instruction? Challenge
- Do not anticipate a significant impact on the facilities themselves.
- Financial considerations recap for 26-27 - How would we make that up? The (1.7M)?
- This (ADK program considerations) is not the only variable that impacts the budget.
- The district will be losing the 3-year COVID money; the law that has been passed, and not knowing what to do in 2027 with ADK.

- Why would the district want to start incurring the expense early? What is the benefit? It is a service and a request that the district does get asked about (providing tuition-free ADK).
- Feedback Loop - the table groups were asked to discuss the following questions:
 - What questions do you have after hearing the presentation?
 - Other than the considerations that you have heard this evening, are there any other considerations D200 should take in this process?
 - Does the list of other budgetary considerations impact your feedback on implementation of universal kindergarten?
 - While you don't have all of the financial information provided to you, what option would you suggest D200 take in implementing universal kindergarten?
- Feedback from groups reported out - Big Picture Summary:
 - Split - most of the table group suggested option 3 until mandated; one person thought we should phase it in. The main thing - don't shift to option 3 immediately. Financial burden to other programs. Value to the half-day program for certain kids.
 - Agreed with the previous table group. Don't like the list - there have to be other things on the list that we need to look at. Dr. Silagi provided context - elementary programming components are what made up the list.
 - Start with it next year, do what is best for children. \$1.7M - pull off the bandaid and make it work. If there are any parents not sending kids to ADK due to the cost, we may be missing the boat. There may be complications and implications in the classroom when the groups come together - you have those who have had the experience and those who haven't had the rigor.
 - Is there data on the efficacy of Full-Day Kindergarten? When there is longer time in Kindergarten (and in Pre-K), the gains are fairly substantial and you can see them clearly in math and reading through 3rd grade. It does taper off and becomes harder to see academically after grade 3.
 - Depends what is happening in the other half of the day.
 - 80% are already doing it. It would only be an addition of 40-50 kids - would mean loss of support for other programs/students. Delay as long as possible.
 - Daycare cost if not in ADK.
 - The longer we can prolong it and keep other services.
 - Split on de-escalation and wait until the last minute. Question - list of things that might go away; how many do you have to give away?; A detailed financial context would be essential.
 - All are supportive of ADK but concerned about finances. Consensus - wait to implement. Noted all of the other projects and seeing how they all play out.
 - Not universal agreement on the topic - spirited conversation.
 - Other school districts are doing this - how are they spending to do this?
- Dr. Schuler - conversation is incredibly helpful; understanding perspectives and different elements.
- January - Dr. O'Keeffe works with the board on the next couple of years' financial projections.
- The district has been preparing for the end of Esser funds and has made some overall reductions in the certified staff headcount into this year.

Review and Discussion of Middle School Facilities Engagement

- Did not get to this agenda item. Will review and discuss this at the November meeting.

Chair Biziarek challenged the group to understand more of what goes into the budget and not just the small list of what may be taken away. You can log into the website and see what is being talked about at the board meetings. Noted the check register and what the district is spending money on can be found here.

What is the Buzz? (What are people talking about out in the community)

- Parent Workshop on Monday, Nov 13 at 6:30 PM at WNHS - Rich Wistocki: "Keeping Our Kids Cyber Safe" (Empowering Parents on How to Protect Their Children On Their Devices, Social Media and Gaming Platforms) - spread the word.
- Asst. Principal at Franklin (Joe Kish) did a board presentation last spring on Safety and Security. He was asked for additional info on the district and he took Mr. Mead on a 3-hour tour of the district. They went into every pocket of the district - very informative to help understand the makeup of the district. Very valuable. Went into Outreach. Noted the district sends teachers to have parent-teacher conferences there for those parents with transportation issues
- WNHS homecoming - concerns raised about the dance floor and number of kids together in a small space. Wondered about safety concerns and surprised this environment is happening in the district.
- Bower runathon happened today- high five to Principal Bridget Moore who danced with a megaphone with every kid for six hours. She did not miss anyone.
- Feedback on WWSHS new principal Lorie Campos - she has blown everyone away, including teachers and students; everyone is loving her.

Adjourn

There was a motion to adjourn: S. Laslo; second: S. Frederick. All in favor.
The meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.