

MINUTES
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT 200
October 14, 2022

A special meeting of the Board of Education of Community Unit School District 200, DuPage County, Illinois, was called to order at the Whittier Elementary School, 218 W Park Ave, Wheaton, IL, by Board President Chris Crabtree, on Friday, October 14, 2022, at 8:03 AM. Local legislators were present at the meeting to discuss issues surrounding public education with local government officials who represent the school district.

ROLL CALL

Upon the roll being called, the following were present:

Board Members: Mrs. Chris Crabtree
 Mr. Rob Hanlon
 Mr. Dave Long
 Mrs. Angela Blatner
 Mrs. Susan Booton
 Mrs. Julie Kulovits
 Mr. Brad Paulsen

CUSD200 Staff: Jeff Schuler – Superintendent of Schools
 Charlie Kyle – Asst. Superintendent of Administrative Services
 Erica Loiacono – Director of Community Engagement & Communications
 Melissa Murphy – Asst. Superintendent of Educational Services
 Brian O’Keeffe – Asst. Superintendent of Business Services
 Chris Silagi – Asst. Superintendent of Student Services
 Jason Spencer – Executive Director of Innovation & Technology
 Mr. Bob Cerny – Whittier Elementary School Principal
 Ian Smith – Director of Instruction for High School

Elected Officials: Betsy Adamowski – Wheaton Public Library Director
 Candice Adams – DuPage County Clerk of the Circuit Court
 Vickie Austin – Wheaton Chamber of Commerce President
 Mike Benard – Wheaton Park District Executive Director
 Robert Berlin – DuPage County State’s Attorney
 Erica Bray-Parker – City of Wheaton Councilwoman
 David Brummel – City of Warrenville Mayor
 Kevin Dahlstrand – City of Warrenville Director of Finance
 Michael Dzugan – City of Wheaton Manager
 Grant Eckhoff – DuPage County Board Member
 Mary Fitzgerald Ozog – DuPage County Board Member
 Rick Gieser – Carol Stream Trustee
 Richard A. Jorgensen – DuPage County Coroner
 Marty Keller – Milton Township Community Emergency Response Team
 Lynn LaPlante – DuPage County Board Member

Matthew Larson – Wheaton Sanitary District Executive Director
Chris LeVan – Milton Township Assessor
Steve Massie – Winfield Park District - President
Bob Mellor – Carol Stream Village Manager
Laurie Metanchuk – Wheaton Public Library Board President
John Monino – Milton Township Supervisor
Tim Reinbold – Warrenville Park District Executive Director
Dr. Darlene Ruscitti – DuPage County ROE Superintendent
Sheila Rutledge – DuPage County Board Member
Greg Schwarze – DuPage County Board Member
Scott Weller – City of Wheaton Councilman
Christina White – City of Warrenville Administrator
Colin Wilkie – Warrenville Park District Board President

MOTION

Member Paulsen moved, Member Hanlon, seconded to suspend the rules and adjourn to a workshop setting. Upon a roll call vote being taken the vote was: AYE 7, NAY 0.

The motion carried 7-0.

Welcome and Program

Dr. Schuler welcomed and thanked everyone for joining today and noted the value of relationships the District has with the collective communities. District 200 Board Members and the leadership team introduced themselves to the group.

Dr. Schuler and members of the District 200 Senior Leadership Team shared information on the District 200 Profile, Finance and Facilities Overviews, the Vision 2026 Strategic Plan, Career Pathways, and SEL (social-emotional learning). All were encouraged to share the information with others in the community. This included information on the following:

- The District 200 “Connect With Us” card – provides all of the ways to connect and follow the School District.
- The District profile is updated annually and contains information on:
 - Communities Served
 - Students – enrollment and demographics
 - Facilities – total number and by level
 - Staff – licensed, retention, master’s or higher percentages
 - Finance – budget, fund balance, S&P bond rating, operating cost per student
 - Student Opportunities – graduate numbers and graduation rate, clubs and athletics, AP classes, college (2 or 4 years), national merit finalists
 - Technology Center of DuPage (TCD) - a proud partnership
 - Vision 2026 Strategic Plan
 - Social-Emotional Learning
 - Portrait of a Graduate
 - Facilities Infrastructure Improvements
- The new strategic plan (Vision 2026) was developed with the support and engagement of the community and contains strategies and tactics that directly align with our Portrait of a Graduate (POG) – including academic excellence strategies and operational excellence strategies.
- Career Pathways for HS students– will help high school students to think about what they want to do, this is intentional - figuring this out before getting off to college. There are

sixteen career pathways identified and key components include dual credit college coursework, work-based learning opportunities, and industry-recognized credentials.

- Noted the new Intro to Teaching Class(es) that are part of the Education Pathway.
- Looking to expand the opportunities for dual-credit coursework. The goal is to have students take their entire first year of Gen Ed coursework while in our buildings.
- The learning acceleration strategy - highlighted unfinished learning, the adoption of new instructional materials, the MS math pilot, and the ELA pilot at the elementary level.
- Aligning coursework, service and workplace/internship experience for early college opportunities.
- A request – if attendees know of any people in the industry that can offer internship opportunities, contact Ian Smith at CUSD 200.
- Finance highlights – operating expense per student is second-lowest among five other benchmark districts; fund balance 33.33%; financial recognition designation from the State Board of Education for the last seven years; and the 13th consecutive year of running a balanced budget.
- Facilities highlights – work done since the 2016-17 facility master plan and developing work plans to work on three of our middle schools; investment of \$45 million on facilities since 2017 (by the end of next summer); the plan for playground replacements.
- SEL - focus on the physical and emotional wellness of our students so they can achieve their goals. Noted student connectedness (making sure every one of our students is connected to school and has access to co-curriculars), providing staff professional learning on growth mindset (how it affects and promotes high student expectations) and ensuring students have access to outside care (partnering with a group, Referral GPS, access to thousands of care providers outside of school).
- Monitoring of the plan via the District 200 dashboard (can be accessed from the main page of the website at cusd200.org).

There were comments/questions on the following:

- The ballpark cost of the new Jefferson Early Childhood Center (under \$17 million) and what populations are served there. Ensuring any child 3 and over has access to early intervention. There are just under 300 students at Jefferson.
- Applauding the career pathways in education. What other initiatives does the District have to recruit/retain high-quality educators? Noted the Oct 12 Board Meeting Human Resources report/update, the D200 “grow your own” program, partnering with local universities for student teacher candidates, job fairs, and new interviewstream program.
- COD (College of DuPage) 1+2+1 program – will significantly reduce the cost of a college education.
- Commending the Board of Education and the District on how they handled things during the pandemic.

Dr. Schuler and President Crabtree thanked everyone for attending and sharing.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

MOTION

There being no further business to come before the Board in Open Session, Member Long moved, Member Paulsen, seconded to adjourn the meeting. Upon a voice call vote being taken, all were in favor and **the motion carried 7-0.**

The meeting was adjourned at 8:46 AM.

Dave Long, Secretary

Chris Crabtree, President