

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 16, 2024, 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 (See Board Policy 2:230)
3. Approval of Minutes – September 18, 2024
4. Question of the Month
5. Discussion and Feedback on Technology Use and EAB Article
6. Introduction to Discussion on School Safety Practices in District 200
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 16, 2024 - Meeting at SSC

Call to Order

- The meeting was called to order at 7:01 p.m. by Chairperson Nathan Mead.
- This meeting was conducted in the BOE Room at the SSC.
- 30 CAC members were present for the meeting; 7 members were absent. (Roster Attached)
- Others present: Supt. Jeff Schuler, Asst. Supt. of Student Services - Chris Silagi, Director of Communications & Community Engagement - Alyssa Barry, Board Member - Julie Kulovits
- Chair Mead reported the highlights of the 10/9/24 Board Meeting at Johnson Elementary School.

Public Comment

- None

Approval of Minutes from September 18, 2024

- Motion to approve the minutes: ML Hengesbaugh; second: K Gillenwater; All in favor.
- The minutes of September 18, 2024, were approved.

Question of the Month

- The group gave some great ideas last month on the district newsletter; we have incorporated some feedback into the newsletter.
- Question of the Month - Points of Celebration:
 - *What is the one thing you have observed, read about, or heard from someone else recently about one of our schools or districts that made you feel proud?*
- The table groups took five minutes to discuss.
- Asked for a few shares:
 - Franklin AP Kish instituted for all staff members outside during drop off and pick up times to wear a safety vest. That has been very helpful. Kids know where to go for help.
 - Feeder events at Franklin hosted by Mr. Kish and Mr. Nielsen for kids that will be coming to Franklin (noted Dodge Ball and Cross Country). Helps the kids get used to middle school.
 - Theatre productions at WWS and WN - good feedback on that. The District has a Community Fine Arts Calendar. Let Dr. Schuler or Alyssa know if anyone has a location where one can be posted.
 - Hawthorne - Amy Krishel and Holly Zimmer are doing a great job this year on diversity and integration of the SAIL students into the Hawthorne community.
 - Bower Peer buddies - 3rd-5th graders sign up for a buddy to work with self-contained students; attended special ed meeting and noted every school offers this; helps students understand other kids.

Discussion and Feedback on Technology Use and EAB Article

- The EAB article "*The Impacts of Screen Time on K-12 Students*" was sent to CAC to review before the meeting.
- Context for the discussion - the general concept of technology and the impact of technology use and will move into specific areas impacted - school operations.

- Related Factors:
- EAB - who is this group? A research partner for D200 and other K-12 and higher education schools/universities partner with. Every year, they do a series of literature reviews around topics that have been identified from the field, and they also do best practice research. After the research is done, they identify districts that are implementing practices and put together a playbook of exemplars on the topic. Cited example of an attendance study. Our District has used much of their research - behavior, relationship mapping, co-curriculars, the science of reading, camp kinder, etc.
- Technology and where we have gone - leading up to 2020, D200 was Universal Access, but not a 1:1 environment (available to students and teachers when needed for a lesson, especially at the elementary level). Shifted during the pandemic to a 1:1 environment and put devices in every student's hands. After the pandemic, we had the devices and continued to operate in a 1:1 setting.
- Lifecycle of a Chromebook - about 4 years. Refresh moment - next year. How are we going to refresh?
- There has been a significant rise in discussion on cell phone policies in schools nationwide. Books have been published on the topic of the impact of technology in phone use and what that has done to remove/limit free play opportunities that students have. "*The Anxious Generation*" book by Jonathan Haidt was noted.
- This led to many individual conversations in districts and states on how to curb/pull some of the screen time back.
- The growth and expansion of AI - Jason Spencer spent time building an understanding of AI and how it will impact us in education. AI is built into almost anything you do. The rise of Generative AI - reconceptualizing that. D200 conversations - build some understanding and wrestle it with student use around AI. Students are using it and tools that have AI built into them.
- The table groups were asked as you read the Literature Study.....
 - What stood out to you?
 - What steps should the District 200 communities take to address these topics?
- Rate the Following Items in Order of Interest for CAC Discussion...
 - Device Deployment (1:1 starting at what grade level?)
 - Cell Phone Policies/Practices
 - AI Use and Policy/Procedure Guidance in District 200
 - Other
- The table groups were asked to discuss, build some prioritization on some of the topics and capture notes, and to share if any topics were added on the back for interest in a CAC discussion. If individuals hear an idea they are interested in, add it to their list:
 - Management and tools for technology - teaching kids etiquette, the importance of movement and in-person interaction with and without technology. Changes will not be the same for all levels.
 - Social Media question and cell phone policies.
 - When Chromebooks were given out during the pandemic, noted sometimes that computer was the only computer in the household. What do we do with that? Hotspots grant - and how to get that message out. Only 50% are used.
 - Online safety and teaching kids not to fall for scams/phishing; embedding that in the curriculum.

- Limit device use as much as you can as long as you can. Ban cell phone use in schools. Book - *“Reclaiming Conversation: The Power of Talk in a Digital Age”* by Sherry Turkle.
- Bookworms - the amount of writing kids are asked to do - encouraged by this.
- Need more forceful language about the risks and long-term effects of screen time.
- Screen time - limiting children's understanding of time itself. Lose the concept of time when you get in the virtual world. This is overlooked, and kids do not understand it, leading to corporate world dysfunction.
- Blame screens or devices, but it is the content. Nobody has real friends or human interactions anymore. Should ban phones in the schools. Be exposed to something else.
- Teach media literacy as a strategy in the school. EAB resource - commonsensical. Handwriting, specifically cursive handwriting, is using a fundamental part of the brain.
- All concepts are so deeply intertwined. Can't address one without addressing all of them. Difficult to prioritize items. They are wrapped up in another.
- Do not give 1:1 devices until MS level. It is not being used much in elementary schools. What role does technology have? We need to know this philosophy before making decisions.
- Offer non-screen time alternatives, intramurals, and the need for cursive writing. The research is there.
- Recognizing kids and screen time - more of a symptom than a cause. Adults are so consumed by technology, and it is managing us, resulting in kids having to entertain themselves. Start with the root cause.
- Understand the balance between using technology and not using technology. What is the standard in schools? Understanding this as parents and work together.
- Education and entertainment - where they entwine and separate. There are kids who are not able to learn without a PPT attached to a lecture. The need to listen and learn. Do they know how to learn either way?
- When we went to Chromebooks during the lockdown, we saw an uptick in students developing migraines and seizures, depression, and a lot of health issues. On the other side, kids with depression and anxiety thrived. The need to find a balance. Certain subjects cannot be taught on a computer.
- Screen time is enhancing social dislocation. The pandemic played a role in this, an accelerant, the trends were already there.
- Capturing/understanding some baseline information will be helpful with this.
- Dr. Schuler participated in a student shadow day at WNHS and was struck by how little screen time there was during the day.

Introduction to Discussion on School Safety Practices in District 200

- Introduced a piece of homework to review before the November CAC meeting related to the Safety and Security Update.
- Context: Our team took information this summer, revamped the safety and security portion of our website, and flipped this live last week.
- Background:
 - March 21, 2024 CAC Meeting - Discussion on District Operating Procedures and Crisis Response

- April 24, 2024 Committee of the Whole Discussion on Comprehensive School Safety
- May 8, 2024 BOE Meeting - Approval to move forward with CUSD 200 Safety and Security Upgrade Plan
- October 2024 - Updated webpage developed to elevate awareness of safety and security practices for our community. This provides an additional resource in answering important questions for our community.
- October 16, 2024 - Dr. Silagi did a quick virtual tour of the new site to preview the homework discussion.
- Consider the following things as you review the CUSD 200 School Safety and Security Webpage.
 - What questions or discussion points do you hear most regularly from members of the community?
 - Are these questions or topics addressed through the revisions to the webpage devoted to school safety and security? If not, what is missing?
 - What is the primary concern you still have after reviewing the school safety and security page that you would be interested in having the CUSD 200 Safety Committee consider as they continue their comprehensive review of safety practices in CUSD 200 schools?
- Dr. Silagi noted this was a comprehensive effort because safety is a comprehensive topic. All our district departments contribute to the safety piece. We wanted a resource that could be a summarizing piece for parents and was easy to consume.
- The group was shown how to get to this page on each of the school and district websites.
- Four key areas - Prevention, Building Security, Crisis Response, and Parent/Guardian Roles.
- Tried to be succinct/compact in drop-down menus.
- There is a lot of depth in each of the pieces.
- Provided examples of what is included in the crisis plan menu and the threat assessment pieces.
- Part of safety is also being prepared. Noted our crisis prevention plan, and the use of the PREPaRE model.
- Also provided some key links - Safe2Help IL, 988 Crisis Lifeline, CUSD 200 Report A Safety Issue, Mental Health Resources, and CUSD 200 Safety Policies.
- The School Psychology and Social Work Department Chairs were instrumental in developing the site.
- Dr. Schuler asked CAC members to review the site and answer the questions on the homework page before the November meeting.
- CAC is going to talk about this topic again. CAC chair restated that it is important that we don't tell everybody all of our safety protocols.

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

- CAC chair will send out the buzz topics to Board members the Saturday after the CAC meeting.
- Illustrative Math workbook fees - how it was communicated and when it was communicated.
- The Google form survey that went out about the school calendar confused some people. There was no way to provide feedback outside of ranking options.
- AI survey to WN students - getting feedback on the implementation of AI. Parents need to be surveyed as well.

- AI in the District and the personal information of students - how is that information being protected? What measures are being taken to protect the privacy of students/families?
- Parent-teacher conferences in the compressed time were hard. It was a lot for parents to try to get all their student conferences in, especially at the MS and HS levels. Positive - staff members noted they were available if parents needed further conversation. Previous practice for conference schedule vs. what was offered this year.
- WWS newsletter was hard to read and noted here last month. This has been fixed. Thank you, Alyssa.
- The CAC chair would like highlights from events.
- There was a City Council meeting about a home potentially being opened up to ex-convicts near Lowell. Parents want to understand the rules of what can be near a school and what cannot.

Adjourn

There was a motion to adjourn: C Dabovich; second: E Bacon; All in favor.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:31 p.m.

2024-25 CAC Meeting Attendance

FIRST	LAST NAME	8/21/2024	9/18/2024	10/16/2024	11/20/2024	1/15/2025	2/19/2025	3/19/2025	4/16/2025
Greg	Aimonette	X		X					
Nick	Allen	X	X	X					
Lindsey	Avalos	X							
Ewa	Bacon	X	X	X					
Sue	Burke	X		X					
Rachel	Clegg	X	X	X					
Chris	Dabovich	X	X	X					
Tabitha	Deno	X	X	X					
Katy	Ebbesen	X	X	X					
Amy	Erkenswick	X		X					
Kelley	Gillenwater	X	X	X					
John	Graham	X	X	X					
Beth	Gucwa	X	X						
Mary-Louise	Hengesbaugh	X	X	X					
Tiffany	Hunter		X						
Meaghan	Jorgensen	X		X					
Katie	Keown	X	X						
Megan	Kleiber	X	X	X					
Megan	Kolisch	X	X						
Assad	Koshul	X		X					
Cassandra (Fern)	Kulpa	X	X	X					
Alexandra (Sasha)	Kunnemann	X	X						
Bridget	Lesko	X	X	X					
Maura	McCrate		X	X					
Ryan	McIntyre	X	X	X					
Nathan	Mead		X	X					
Cheryl	Moore	X	X	X					
Ashley	Moos	X	X	X					
Brooke	Oswald		X	X					
Sara	Paver	X	X	X					

2024-25 CAC Meeting Attendance

FIRST	LAST NAME	8/21/2024	9/18/2024	10/16/2024	11/20/2024	1/15/2025	2/19/2025	3/19/2025	4/16/2025
Rita	Perona	X	X	X					
Joe	Piombino	X		X					
Christina	Podraza	X		X					
Amanda	Randall	X	X	X					
Mary	Reynolds Kane		X	X					
Blake	Steinbraker								
Lisa	Thomas	X	X	X					