

# Community Unit School District 200

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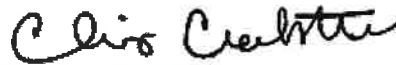
## NOTICE

### 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, March 15, 2023, at 7:00 – 8:30 p.m. at the Wheaton Warrenville South High School, 1920 S. Wiesbrook Rd., Wheaton, IL. The agenda of the meeting is as follows:

1. Call to Order
2. Public Comment
3. Approval of Minutes – February 15, 2023
4. CAC Updates
  - i. Members Returning for 23-24
  - ii. Membership Selection Sub-Committee Interest
5. Vision 2026 – Middle School Facilities Project Review and Discussion (continued)
  - i. Updated Costs
  - ii. Funding Options
  - iii. Community Engagement Plan and Interest
6. What is the Buzz?
7. Adjourn



Chris Crabtree  
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)**  
**March 15, 2023 - Meeting at WWSHS**

**Call to Order**

- The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Dr. Schuler/Chair Greg Biziarek.
- This meeting was conducted in the LLC at WWSHS.
- 25 CAC members were present for the meeting.
- Others present: Superintendent Dr. Jeff Schuler, Asst. Supt, Brian O’Keeffe, Director of Communications Erica Loiacono, Ed. Services Director Scott Chedister (MS Instruction); Director of Facilities Kevin Weisenberger, Board Members Julie Kulovits and Dave Long.

**Public Comment**

- None

**Approval of Minutes from February 15, 2023**

- Motion to approve the minutes: J. Houlihan; second: G. Aimonette. All in favor.
- The minutes of Feb 15, 2023, were approved.

**CAC Updates**

**i. Members Returning for 23-24**

**ii. Membership Selection Sub-Committee Interest**

- Dr. Schuler referenced the CAC bylaws and noted the section on membership, specifically regarding a selection subcommittee
- The current CAC roster shows those rolling off (due to the 5-year term limit). Anticipate there will be at least eight current members rolling off.
- Based on the CAC applications received to date, it will be necessary to have a subcommittee.
- As members are leaving tonight they will receive an exit ticket that will ask 2 things - if members are not in their 5th year, do you want to return next year? Secondly, would you like to serve on the subcommittee to review and prepare a proposed list of new CAC candidates? Committee chairs will work with Dr. Schuler on setting up this subcommittee. Buildings were noted that do not currently have representation in CAC.
- CAC members were encouraged to get the word out in the community.

**Vision 2026 - Middle School (MS) Facilities Project Review and Discussion (continued)**

**i. Updated Costs**

**ii. Funding Options**

**iii. Community Engagement Plan and Interest**

- At February’s CAC meeting, the first reveal of the MS concepts was shown. Following that meeting last month, some new pieces of information were put together and shared with the Board.
- Realized through conversations had with people individually, a disservice was done to this process. The facilities discussion has been in development for the last 9 years, and the information was brought to the group in mid-chapter. The administration took some time to tell the story.
- Reviewed the Middle School Facilities Plan History. Noted the only thing the Board has committed to is the plan for community engagement, not committed to any projects, nor to

any funding plan. The community engagement plan has a target completion date of October 2023.

- The Community Engagement Leadership Team would include some members of CAC and parents from some MS attendance boundaries. The charge of the team is to go out, gather as much feedback as possible through as many means as we can, and bring that feedback back to the Board in the fall.
- The goal is to let the community through your voice help to drive the decisions that need to be made around facilities. Ultimately, the Board will make the decision.
- Engage 200 concluded in 2014, shortly before Dr. Schuler started with the District. This was broader than just facilities; examined a lot more, but facilities were a big part of it.
- At the time, the District had a Capital Improvement Plan. The capital improvement plan looks at each of the twenty sites looks at every aspect of mechanical and physical infrastructure and categorized every piece of infrastructure as to when we would likely have to replace each part - condition 1 (1-3 years), condition 2 (4-8 years), condition 3 (more than 8 years). By that time, had a pretty good sense of what needed to be in place. The three MS capital improvement plan documents were provided to the group.
- One of the first things the Board did was establish a policy (Sherman Dergis Policy 4:152). As part of this, there are formulas, calculations, and evaluations to determine what should be budgeted every year to stay on top of a replacement cycle for assets. Assumes you are starting from a place where you are caught up. Sherman Dergis is a target - put a 4-year ramp in place. (about 7 Million per year). That has been the annual target.
- 2016 - the Board felt that was not enough to address any needs other than replacement. Put out an RFP, and put together a Master Facilities Plan together with educational improvements.
- The Master Facilities Plan document, as well as the link on the website, was shown. Noted this is broken out by level on the website.
- Drew attention to two things on the website - the current layout/blueprints of our buildings and pictures of the targeted areas that were identified.
- The priority/target areas of focus established in 2017 for middle schools are almost the same as those reviewed last month by CAC in the current MS facilities plan.
- The Board at the time decided to advance a referendum). About half of that referendum was capital improvements, \$47 million were MS improvements, there were security improvements, and an Early Learning Center. The plan did not pass. The Board stepped back, and listened to the feedback. A lot of the feedback noted there was too much at one time. The Board reprioritized the work, and focused on security improvements (secure entries), capital, and the Early Learning Center. Jefferson ECC was done through a lease agreement. Utilized a lease certificate funding - a borrowing mechanism, but you pay those bonds back out of operating funds. The Board approved this, a lawsuit was filed, this was brought to referendum, passed, and the new Jefferson ECC was completed.
- Noted all that has been done since that time off of the capital improvement plan (approximately \$50 million). There is still a lot of work to do at the middle schools.
- The MS "Low" option number and the relationship to condition 1 and 2 items off of the capital improvement plan.
- 2018 - The Board completed the last of a four-phase debt restructure. This was an opportunity to reduce interest rates on some callable bonds as well as smooth out a curve on the debt payments. There are three years left with any bond and interest payment.
- May of 2022 - reengaged with Perkins & Will to revisit the MS projects, and reaffirmed the priority areas. Brought the new concepts forward in February. In March, brought forward

the potential funding options/mechanisms for facilities projects. This includes using existing fund balance, pledging O&M dollars, utilizing DSEB (Debt Service Extension Base) non-referendum bonds, utilizing debt certificates payable from operating funds, and approving a referendum question to authorize the sale of bonds. Supporting documents from PMA on the District debt overview and financing scenarios were provided.

- Brought the community engagement process forward in March.
- Provided the updated costs in March. Noted the base option (almost \$42 million of work to attend to). Ultimately, all pieces of information and variables are going to have to be put together to put together a plan.
- Important to get feedback and perspectives.
- When you look at pieces of information in isolation, they don't tell the story. This is a continuation of work that started nine years ago.
- The ask of CAC tonight is three things.
  - 1) In terms of putting together a plan, what pieces of information are absolutely essential for the community engagement leadership to deliver on their charge? What is missing from what you have seen?
  - 2) What are the essential pieces of information that community members need to have access to or be aware of to effectively provide feedback on the MS facilities options?
  - 3) What ideas do you have for how to best provide the critical pieces of information that will be needed to provide feedback on the MS facilities options?
- Do not anticipate the District will rely on only one of the funding options provided for all of the MS projects. Will likely rely on several of the columns of the doc/options together in combination. Referenced the PMA document for information on financing scenarios.
- What is our capital investment per school among D200 and how does that compare to our neighbors? This information was gathered a few years ago.
- The CAC table groups were asked to discuss and provide answers to the above three questions.
- Members of the Administration were available to answer any questions the table groups may have had.
- A question was asked regarding the time commitment of the community engagement leadership team. No firm answer in terms of the number of meetings, the deliverable is in October. Anticipate will meet a few times right away. Engagement and awareness are high right when we get back to school in August and right after spring break. In summer and even May - we lose people. Thinking the committee will meet a couple of times a month until the end of the school year, then again in the fall. Expectation will be not to meet in summer break. May see some communication in the summer. Important to make sure the process will get the right feedback to the Board.
- Asked for any high-level thoughts or observations on the three questions:
  - Would be helpful to see a list of priorities based on safety concerns. Outside of the cost, wanting to make sure educators and students are safe.
  - Do we have advisors/researchers/groups that can assist the District with this - how to make the presentations, how to ensure they are unbiased, etc.? Noted someone specific to present to the public. There are some communications groups that can assist with that and depends on what aspect of communication we are looking for. Noted survey tool assistance is different expertise than someone who is a general communications specialist.

- Are there corporate sponsors or private funding options or sponsorships? This would be helpful for the community to see. Noted this is difficult in the K-12 space as opposed to higher education space. This was explored in 2017 and did not turn over much. Most of the fundraising done in the K-12 space is through PTA. Noted there is a policy that governs how you can and what you can name facilities.
- Any questions or need for additional information can be directed to Dr. Schuler.

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

- School board election - the importance of it and the characteristics valued in a school board candidate.
- Author visit at Pleasant Hill. Rave reviews by teachers and students. A great message for the kids.
- Minor traffic accident at Monroe involving a bus - the community appreciated the good communication from the District on this.
- Elementary-level parents miss field trips for kids. Noted rigorous criteria related to curriculum and schedules. Would like to see field trips reinstated or see more of them.
- Appreciate Board candidates at the meeting.

Dr. Schuler asked CAC members to complete and turn their CAC interest in returning form before leaving the meeting.

### **Adjourn**

There was a Motion to adjourn: R. Clegg; second: ML Hengesbaugh; All in favor.  
The meeting was adjourned at 8:28 pm.