

**North Boone Community Unit School District No. 200**  
Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the  
Board of Education  
District Office  
6248 North Boone School Road, Poplar Grove, Illinois 61065  
Monday, December 17, 2012  
6:30 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Education was called to order at 6:33 p.m. by President Don Ward.

Present: President Don Ward, Vice President Denise Balsley, Secretary Tom Kinser, Treasurer Laura Zwart, Mr. Collin Crull, Mr. Glen Gratz (arrived 6:40 p.m.) and Mrs. Amy Morris  
Absent: *None*

**PUBLIC HEARING ON 2012 TAX LEVY**

*(No speakers regarding the 2012 Tax Levy)*

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mrs. Zwart to close the Public Hearing on the 2012 Tax Levy.

The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

**AUDIENCE TO VISITORS**

*(No Audience to Visitors)*

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mrs. Zwart to approve the Agenda. The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Dr. Baule informed the Board that a new bi-partisan pension reform bill was scheduled to be introduced that day. The bill would reduce the annual cost of living adjustment; raise the retirement age for all TRS members under age 46; increase active member contributions by 2% points over time; cap the amount of salary that can be used to determine a final average salary; create a new law that prevents the state from skipping its annual pension contribution; and shifts the annual cost of TRS pensions from the state to local school districts. However, it is questionable what will actually come out of that bill. It is anticipated that something will be done by January 7<sup>th</sup> or 8<sup>th</sup>, 2013.

CEANCI is still trying to work through Rock Valley College to get more programming, as well as agriculture courses that would include NBHS. Dr. Baule anticipated that it would go forward.

Dr. Baule announced that, in conjunction with the new teacher/principal evaluation requirements, the first round of two formal principal observations required by PERA (Performance Evaluation Reform Act) has been completed.

Mrs. Lindsay Abbeduto and a group of 7<sup>th</sup> grade teachers are working on a pilot program for fall 2013. They will soon be doing site visits this month to observe teachers' use of 1:1 tablets in other districts. Most of this group will also go to the ICE (Illinois Computing Educators) conference in St. Charles this coming February.

Dr. Baule noted that he has not yet heard back from iFiber regarding upgrading a band width proposal.

Dr. Baule presented additional data from ECRA based on the fall MAP testing at the high school. The high school growth scores in reading were almost off the charts.

Mr. Hubert agreed, adding that the teachers are using the Common Core Standards which are much higher than the old state standards, and they have had a big impact on the students' scores. The students are taking more ownership of their test scores and are trying to do their best.

Dr. Baule noted that the district should be getting more data after the winter exam cycle. Although K-8 scores are not as impressive, the fall scores do tend to drop somewhat. Dr. Baule planned to put out a press release about the high school scores on Tuesday.

Dr. Baule presented updates on the Stadium Committee's meetings. Their last meeting was on December 5, 2012. At this time, the Committee is considering locating the stadium in the southeast portion of the high school property.

Dr. Baule stated that he had posted a school calendar survey on the district's Blog, Facebook and Twitter. A 2014-15 school calendar will be available for Board approval in January 2013.

Dr. Baule reminded the Board that their Open Meeting Act Training must be completed by the end of December.

Dr. Baule mentioned that the district will most likely work with Northern Illinois University to provide Spanish classes for staff after school during the second semester.

Dr. Baule recently found out that the reason North Boone does not receive truancy support from the Regional Office of Education (ROE) for grades 9-12 was that several years ago the superintendent turned down their support because the district felt they could do it themselves. As the compulsory age increases, district administrators felt help would be needed from the truancy officer. The cost to the district for ten hours per week would be no more than \$4,000. Any additional hours would be covered by the ROE. The truancy officer who works K-8 said the judge had very nice things to say about the Upper Elementary staff in particular and noted that the communication between the school and parents was very good.

Mr. Hubert added that the Upper Elementary parents take the truancy laws very seriously.

The District is going to do some restructuring in how we staff our special education personnel. Another special education teacher will be needed at the middle school level as well as additional special education assistants at the high school and Poplar Grove Elementary. Dr. Baule noted

that the district has decreased the number of out placed special education students in the last two years from 35 to 7, which is a significant cost savings.

The district has received a letter from SVC Certified Public Accountants inquiring about an extension of their contract. Dr. Baule asked the Board for direction as to whether or not they would like to stay with SVC. SVC has now completed three audits for the district. Both he and Mrs. Boeke have been very pleased with SVC's performance and quickness to respond to any questions. To extend their contract, the cost for FY2012-13 would remain the same and increase \$500/year for FY14 and FY15. The cost has been approximately \$12,000/year. Dr. Baule felt it would be advantageous to stay with SVC should the district change accounting systems.

After discussion among the Board members, it was agreed to ask SVC for a two-year contract.

Dr. Baule stated that he and the administrative team have been reviewing the Strategic Plan relative to the progress made to date. There are two years left in the scope of the Plan and he felt it would be wise to make changes in the technology and communications sections of the Plan.

Dr. Baule called the Board's attention to the following information that was included in their packets:

- Information on bilingual teachers from Spain. The district has had difficulties finding bilingual teachers, and has had an opening for one at Capron Elementary for some time. ISBE has been working with Spain to bring visiting bilingual teachers to Illinois.
- Thank you letter from Belvidere-Boone County Food Pantry. Ms. Karen Becker worked with the high school staff to participate in the Penny Drive for the pantry, and the elementary schools are working on a toy and clothing drive. District students also perform volunteer work at the pantry.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Policy Committee**

Mrs. Balsley reported that the Policy Committee last met on December 10, 2012. A number of revised policies are on tonight's Consent Agenda for approval. The next Policy Committee meeting is to be determined.

### **Business Services Committee**

Mrs. Zwart reported that the Business Services Committee last met on November 28, 2012. The Committee discussed the 2012 tax levy and wind farms. She noted that the tax rate had increased since the original pro forma, *Revenue Analysis of a 200MW Wind Project located in North Boone School District*, was prepared. The next Business Services Committee meeting is to be determined.

### **Facility/Long Range Planning Committee**

Mr. Ward reported that the Facility/Long Range Planning Committee did not meet in December. The next Facility/Long Range Planning Committee meeting date is to be determined.

**Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Committee**

Mr. Gratz reported that the Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Committee did not meet in December. The next Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment Committee meeting date is to be determined.

**Other Committee Reports**

Mrs. Zwart reported that the Community Involvement Committee last met on December 12, 2012. The Committee discussed the pancake breakfast scheduled for January 12, 2013 at the high school. The varsity will play at 7:00 p.m. that evening. The next Community Involvement Committee meeting date is to be determined.

Mr. Kinser reported that the Technology Subcommittee did not meet in December. The next Technology Subcommittee meeting date is to be determined.

**TREASURER’S REPORT**

Mrs. Zwart stated that Treasurer’s Reports for August, September, October and November 2012 were presented.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mrs. Zwart to approve the Consent Agenda.

The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

- A. Minutes of the Regular Meeting November 26, 2012
- B. Personnel

Site	Person	Position	Salary	Effective/End Date
<b>1. Non-Certified - Hire</b>				
District	Patricia Ramirez	Bookkeeper	\$15/hr. (incl. IMRF)	12-10-12
<b>2. Non-Certified – FMLA</b>				
Capron	Sherri Johnson	Head Cook	N/A	11-7-12 to 01-07-13
<b>3. Non-Certified - Resignation</b>				
Capron	Carissa Bry	Teacher Assistant	N/A	12-14-12
<b>4. Certified – FMLA</b>				
NBUE	Janet Lobo	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade Teacher	N/A	03-11-13 to 05-14-13 (using sick/personal days & remaining unpaid)
<b>5. Extra-Curricular – Volunteer</b>				
NBHS	Rafael Sampson	Wrestling Volunteer	Indemnify	2012-2013 School Year

- C. First Reading and Approval of Policies
- D. Disposal of Obsolete Equipment
- E. Group VIII Program Request – Poplar Grove Elementary
- F. Overnight Field Trip Request – Chess Team

## UNFINISHED BUSINESS

(No Unfinished Business)

## NEW BUSINESS

### A. December 2012 Bills

A motion was made by Mrs. Zwart and seconded by Mrs. Morris to approve the December 2012 Bills.

Ayes: Mr. Crull, Mr. Gratz, Mrs. Morris, Mrs. Zwart

Nays: *(none)*

Abstain: Mrs. Balsley, Mr. Kinser, Mr. Ward

Motion passed 4-0, with three abstentions.

### B. 2012 Tax Levy

Mr. Baule stated that the EAV was down about 22%, which is less than average. However, he had not heard anything about this decrease having an impact on the maximum tax rates.

A motion was made by Mrs. Zwart and seconded by Mr. Crull to approve the 2012 Tax Levy.

The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

### C. Resolution Abating the Tax heretofore Levied for the Year 2012 to Pay Debt Service on General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2008A, of Community Unit School District Number 200, Boone and Winnebago Counties, Illinois

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mr. Gratz to approve the Resolution Abating the Tax heretofore Levied for the Year 2012 to Pay Debt Service on General Obligation Bonds (Alternate Revenue Source), Series 2008A, of Community Unit School District Number 200, Boone and Winnebago Counties, Illinois.

The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

### D. High School Curriculum Proposals

Dr. Baule stated that the objective of the Curriculum Committee was to expand the courses available at the high school to make sure there will be an honors sequence at all levels. Six new AP and/or Honors courses, plus an Honors Geometry Course, were presented for approval. Mr. Wesbecher and Ms. O'Connell are working on a 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> grade career counseling course, and Mrs. Abbeduto and Mrs. Kleckler are working on a K-8 health program.

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mr. Gratz to adopt the six new curriculum proposals, plus Honors Geometry, effective the 2013-2014 school year.

The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made at 7:43 p.m. by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mr. Gratz to recess to Executive Session to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees; collective negotiating matters; student discipline; or other matters provided for pursuant to §2(c) of the Open Meetings Act.

The motion was carried by unanimous roll call.

The following members were present: President Don Ward, Vice President Denise Balsley, Secretary Tom Kinser, Treasurer Laura Zwart, Mr. Collin Crull, Mr. Glen Gratz and Mrs. Amy Morris.

The Open Session of the Board of Education was called to order at 8:31 p.m. by President Don Ward.

Present: President Don Ward, Vice President Denise Balsley, Secretary Tom Kinser, Treasurer Laura Zwart, Mr. Collin Crull, Mr. Glen Gratz and Mrs. Amy Morris

Absent: *(None)*

**RECOMMENDATIONS FROM EXECUTIVE SESSION**

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mr. Crull to extend the suspension of Student 2013-01 until January 24, 2013.

The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

**ADJOURNMENT**

A motion was made by Mrs. Balsley and seconded by Mr. Gratz to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m.

The motion was carried by unanimous voice vote.

**PRESIDENT** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Don Ward**

**SECRETARY** \_\_\_\_\_  
**Tom Kinser**

**APPROVED:** \_\_\_\_\_