



**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING BULLETIN
DU QUOIN COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #300
CENTRAL OFFICE - 845 EAST JACKSON ST.
DU QUOIN, ILLINOIS 62832
MEETING HELD IN PD ROOM (next to District Office)
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 17, 2020
6:30 P.M.**

Zach McPherson - President
Trent Waller - Vice President
Brian Rodely - Secretary
Crystal Harsy - Member
Patrick Riley - Member
Kevin West - Member
Mark Woodside – Member

Administrators present: Matthew Hickam – Superintendent, Cory Robbins via Google Meet – Business Manager, Diana Rea – Director of Instructional Services/Elementary Principal via Google Meet, Aaron Hill – Middle School Principal via Google Meet, Tim McChristian – High School Principal via Google Meet and Denise Woodsides – High School Assistant Principal via Google Meet.

Others present: Denise Hirsch – Recording Secretary, Pam Pursell – DEA Co-President via Google Meet, Derek Beard – High School Athletic Director via Google Meet, and Pete Spitler – Du Quoin Weekly via Google Meet.

Prior to the meeting, Robert Morwell, member of the Du Quoin Ministerial Alliance delivered a prayer.

	Item	Info	Action
I.	Call to Order The meeting was called to order by Board President McPherson at 6:35 PM.		
II.	Roll Call Present: Harsy, McPherson, Riley via Google Meet, Rodely, Waller via Google Meet, West, and Woodside.		
III.	Reports A. Building principals – The Reasons We Are Proud were shared with the Board. B. Superintendent – Mr. Hickam also provided an update regarding impacts of COVID-19 including the decision to have a Remote Planning Day on Monday, January 4 th . He also explained the plan to return to school after the Christmas break using the blended (A/B) schedule. District-wide, students will resume school on Tuesday, Jan. 5 in the blended schedule. This will be used the first two weeks of school. Mr. Hickam also expressed thankfulness for being able to finish the first semester without any major disruptions to the plan. He noted the teamwork between faculty/staff and families which made this possible.		
IV.	Public Hearing A. DEA Representative – No comments B. Public – Mr. Hickam read an e-mail message addressed to the Board of Education from Kathi Morgenstern concerning the return to school in January.		
V.	Executive Session: The Board entered into executive session at 7:02 PM to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, and performance of specific employees and purchase of real property in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1). The Board returned to open session at 8:25 PM.		
VI.	Consent Agenda: A. The Board approved the minutes of the November 19, 2020 regular Board of Education meeting (including executive session minutes).		

VII.	Financial Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. The Board approved the payment of bills for November 2020. B. The Board approved the November 2020 financial report. 		
VIII.	New or Unfinished Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Update regarding high school athletic conference. Mr. Hickam noted that Sparta's decision to leave the Southern Illinois River to River Conference has led to recent discussions about the future of the conference. At a meeting held on Monday, Dec. 14, attended by the superintendents, high school principals, and athletic directors of the member schools, it was agreed that efforts would be made to move forward with eleven members. B. Mr. Hickam and Mrs. Rea shared information regarding existing programming being offered through the 21st Century grants and plans for what can be added if a waiver is submitted/approved with the Illinois State Board of Education which provides additional flexibility within the rules of the grant considering the impacts of COVID-19 and the use of remote learning. The Board approved the waiver for 21st Century programs to provide supplemental programming during remote learning/blended schedule. C. Mr. Hickam presented a recommendation to the Board for the 2020 tax levy request. The request represented a zero percent increase from the current year and request amount of \$4,665,272. The Board adopted the 2020 district property tax levy (payable in 2021) as recommended. D. As a first reading, the Board considered board policy updates as recommended by the Illinois Association of School Boards including the following policies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 4:80 Accounting and Audits - 4:90 Student Activity and Fiduciary Funds - 5:270 Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment - 6:20 School Year Calendar and Day - 6:300 Graduation Requirements - 6:310 High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students - 6:320 High School Credit for Proficiency - 6:340 Student Testing and Assessment Program - 7:100 Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students - 7:140 Search and Seizure - 7:300 Extracurricular Athletics - 7:325 Student Fundraising Activities 		
IX.	Employment: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. The Board approved a 3-year contract for Aaron Hill as middle school principal to begin on July 1, 2021. B. The Board approved a 3-year contract for Diana Rea as District Curriculum Director to begin on July 1, 2021. C. The Board approved a 3-year contract for Cory Robbins as District Business Manager to begin on July 1, 2021. 		
X.	Leave of Absence Request <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. The Board approved the request from Lauren Scheks for a leave of absence for the spring semester of the 2020-2021 school year so that she may complete student teaching. 		
XI.	Adjournment The Board adjourned at 9:00 PM.		