



**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, JANUARY 21, 2021
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, Pete Spitler – Du Quoin Weekly via Google Meet, Renee Trappe – Du Quoin Call via Google Meet, Scott Satterlee and Gail White – White & Borgognoni Architects via Google Meet.

	Item	Info	Action
I.	Call to Order The meeting was called to order by Board President McPherson at 6:32 PM.		
II.	Roll Call Present: Harsy via Google Meet, McPherson, Riley, Rodely, West, and Woodside. Absent: Waller.		
III.	Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Building principals – The Reasons We Are Proud were shared with the Board. b. Superintendent– Mr. Hickam shared with the Board some information regarding COVID. Approximately 60% of the faculty/staff signed up to receive the vaccine. Some of the faculty/staff have received their shots already. Regarding athletics, a few sports have been able to start practicing. Mr. Hickam talked about the school calendar and stated that as of now we are going to follow what was originally approved including the Spring Break in March. 		
IV.	Public Hearing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. DEA Representative - none b. Public – none 		
V.	Executive Session: The Board entered into executive session at 6:57 PM to discuss the appointment, employment, compensation, and performance of specific employees and collective bargaining matters in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1). The Board returned to open session at 7:51 PM.		
VI.	Consent Agenda: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Board approved the minutes of the December 17, 2020 regular Board of Education meeting (including executive session minutes). b. The Board adopted resolutions to abate property taxes relative to Series 2017A, 2017B, and 2019 bonds. 		

	Item	Info	Action
VII.	Financial Items: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Board approved the payment of bills for December 2020. The Board approved the December 2020 financial report. 		
VIII.	New or Unfinished Business <ol style="list-style-type: none"> Consideration and awarding of bid for K-8 exterior door project – Mr. Robbins and representatives from White & Borgognoni Architects presented information to the Board concerning the door replacement project at the K-8 building. The Board approved the bid from R & W Builders who had the lowest base bid for the project. The Board approved what was presented as Option #3 which had a projected cost of \$256,968 and includes the replacement of the main entrance doors for DES, DMS, the District Office as well as the replacement of ten exterior corridor doors plus electronic locking mechanisms. It was noted that the School Maintenance Grant will provide \$50,000 of the cost while the remainder will utilize funds from the county facility sales tax. Update on 21st Century programming planned – Mrs. Rea shared a summary of the plans which are set to begin on January 25th (see attached). These opportunities were noted as a valuable means of getting more students back on track. Consideration of temporary changes to Du Quoin Elementary School and Du Quoin Middle School promotion/retention policies – Mrs. Rea and Mr. Hill shared changes they and their respective leadership teams were recommending for implementation this year. It was noted that these changes were only for this year. The Board adopted the recommended changes. (See attached) Review and consideration of transportation contract – Mr. Robbins provided background on recent developments in the area regarding transportation contracts. There was discussion about the possibility of bidding transportation services in the future. The Board authorized the administration to bid trash removal services. The Board adopted policy updates as recommended by the Illinois Association of School Boards including the following policies: <ol 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.	Request for Maternity Leave <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Board approved Katie Hicks' request for maternity leave from March 12th through the remainder of the 2020-2021 school year. 		
X.	Employment of Personnel <ol style="list-style-type: none"> The Board employed personnel for 21st Century Waiver Program as follows: Mary Williams, Shawn Kellerman, Cindy Winter, Angie Sheehan, Kasey Spencer, Elizabeth Kremer, Susan Ross, Mark Morefield, Sharon Bishop, Kim Johnson, Doris Kern, Tina Kurtz, Nikki Saunders, Tena Rennison, and Sarah Carter. 		
XI.	Adjournment The Board adjourned at 9:12 PM.		

21st Century Community Learning Center

To: Du Quoin CUS #300 Board of Education
From: Diana Rea, Director of Instructional Services-Grant Administrator
1/21/2021

DHS Site: 75 students were identified who needed credit recovery from 1st semester and invited to participate in the program for high school credit. Students have options to select online programming during the school day based on their A/B schedule or attend in person after school. The online program is Monday – Thursday from 9AM – 12PM or 1PM – 3PM. The in person credit recovery classes are being offer from 3PM – 4:15PM Monday –Thursday in a blended schedule.

There are 12 students enrolled with more enrollments expected. Credit recovery areas are English I & II, Biology, and Algebra II. Other areas will be added as needed to serve enrolled students.

DMS Site: 88 students were identified, failing one or more core subjects. There are 26 students currently enrolled with more enrollments expected. Students will stay following the A/B schedule from 1PM - 4:15 PM with 1:45 – 3:00 for standards and content re-teaching so social distancing and safety protocols can be observed. At 3:00PM students will attend an after school class to work on current assignments, in a design to keep the student assignments updated with expectations so further recovery is not needed.

DES Site: 50 students were identified, failing one or more core subjects. There are 20 students currently enrolled with more enrollments expected. All enrolled elementary students will stay from 1PM - 4:15 PM with 1:45 – 3:00 for completing standards not mastered by redoing required assignments and missing work from the previous quarters. At 3:00PM students will attend an after school class to work on current assignments, in a design to keep the student assignments updated with expectations so further recovery is not needed.

All three sites are holding an “internet café” on Fridays from 8AM – 11AM providing Chromebook devices and internet connection to participate in Google Meetings and completing assignments. Breakfast and lunch will be served to attendees. Bus transportation is provided from the program daily.

In response to the COVID-19 crisis and impact on student learning structures, Du Quoin Elementary School initiates some policy exceptions with regard to the promotion expectations. Du Quoin Elementary School understands that family circumstances vary widely and will ensure that families have opportunities to provide input into the learning community through a flexible, responsive approach to instruction as the primary focus.

The following criteria reflect the 2020-2021 Illinois priority standards, research-based studies and faculty collaboration in design. It includes many factors that may play into the students ability to participate in the learning environment, including health risks, limited internet connectivity, access to devices, etc.

Qualification for 2020-2021 promotion will consist of the following criteria listed below for each grade level.

KINDERGARTEN - PROMOTION EXPECTATIONS

Reading/Math: Must meet satisfactory progress on the Early Literacy and Math standards by the end of the fourth quarter requirements.

Attendance - Unexcused absences do not exceed 10% of student learning days.

GRADE 1- GRADE 4 - PROMOTION EXPECTATIONS

Reading/Math – Demonstrate adequate progress towards grade level expectations as indicated by district approved assessments.

Students must achieve passing summative averages for the school year in English Language Arts/Reading and Math

Attendance - Unexcused absences do not exceed 10% of student learning days.

If a student fails English Language Arts/Reading and Math for the cumulative average, the student will be retained and required to attend academic summer school. Students with a core academic final average, including science and social studies, which is failing for the year, or the attendance below the promotion expectation, will be required to attend academic summer school.

A student may be retained with failing expectations in one of the core subjects of English Language Arts/Reading or Math. Parents or guardians are encouraged to participate in developing plans for academic success during parent conferences, problem solving meetings (CAP) and other times requested by the teacher, principal, or parent. Recommendations for retention are made with the student's teacher and the building principal.

2020-2021 DMS Promotion Policy

Because of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic, DMS is recommending changes to our Promotion Policy. These recommended changes are intended for the 2020-2021 academic year only. The purpose of these recommended changes is to recognize, and address, the impact that the mandated COVID-19 mitigation measures have had on instruction and learning during the last quarter of the 2019-2020 school year, and the entire 2020-2021 school year. At the conclusion of the 2020-2021 academic year, our Promotion Policy will revert back to the Board approved policy that is currently stated in our 2020-2021 Student Handbook.

Current DMS Promotion Policy as stated in the 2020-2021 Student Handbook:

Promotion Policy: All students in grades five through eight will be identified for promotion based upon meeting two of the three following criteria:

1. Students must pass four of the five academic classes and three of the five exploratory classes (see explanation below).
2. Students must have a score of "meets" or "exceeds" on all of the learning areas assessed on State assessments.
3. Students must be in attendance at least 90% of the school attendance days.
(More than 17 days of unexcused absence will jeopardize promotion)

****If a student fails two or more academic subjects (item #1), the student will be retained regardless of meeting any other criteria.**

PLEASE NOTE THE FOLLOWING RETENTION POLICY:

- A. Any student **CAN** be retained with one (1) F average in an academic subject, or an F average in three (3) exploratory subjects.
- B. Students **WILL** be retained with an F average in two (2) academic subjects or an F average in one (1) academic and three (3) exploratory subjects.
- C. Any student who fails math and/or reading for the year will be required to attend, and successfully complete, summer school before they will be promoted to the next grade.

Students in this situation will be identified at the earliest possible time and parents will be notified that their child is under consideration for retention.

The decision to promote a student to the next grade level is based on successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, performance on standardized tests and other testing. A student will not be promoted based upon age or any other social reason not related to academic performance.

Academic Subjects are classified as: Language Arts, Reading, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science.

Exploratory Subjects are classified as: Art, Music, Health/PE and all other nine-week courses.

Health will count for 1/3 and PE will count for 2/3 of the grade the last nine (9) weeks. To fail the area, students would have to fail both classes.

Students will receive letter grades for exploratory subjects.

Proposed Changes:

Promotion Policy: All students in grades five through eight will be identified for promotion based upon the following criteria:

1. Students who pass four of the five academic classes and three of the five exploratory classes will be promoted.
2. Students who fail two, or three, of the five academic classes will be required to attend, and successfully complete, mandatory summer school in the subjects they failed. At the conclusion of mandatory summer school, a student may only have one remaining class with an overall failing grade in order to be promoted.
3. Students who fail four or more of the five academic classes will be retained.
4. A student's performance on competency exams may be considered when determining if a student will be promoted if they have failed three or fewer academic classes.
5. Students should be in attendance at least 90% of the school attendance days. Engagement during full-remote days will be taken into consideration along with attendance.
(More than 17 days of unexcused absence will jeopardize promotion.)

Students in this situation will be identified at the earliest possible time and parents will be notified that their child is under consideration for retention.

The decision to promote a student to the next grade level is based on successful completion of the curriculum, attendance, performance on standardized tests and other testing. A student will not be promoted based upon age or any other social reason not related to academic performance.

Academic Subjects are classified as: Language Arts, Reading, Mathematics, Social Studies, and Science.

Exploratory Subjects are classified as: Art, Music, Health/PE and all other nine-week courses.

Health will count for 1/3 and PE will count for 2/3 of the grade the last nine (9) weeks. To fail the nine weeks, students would have to fail both classes.

Students will receive letter grades for exploratory subjects.