



**BULLETIN**  
**REGULAR BOARD OF EDUCATION MEETING**  
**DU QUOIN COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT #300**  
**CENTRAL OFFICE - 845 EAST JACKSON ST.**  
**DU QUOIN, ILLINOIS 62832**  
**MEETING HELD IN PD ROOM NEXT TO CENTRAL OFFICE**  
**THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 17, 2022**  
**6:00 P.M.**

Brian Rodely - President  
Trent Waller - Vice President  
Amy Rose - Secretary  
Crystal Harsy - Member  
Zach McPherson - Member  
Steven Still - Member  
Kevin West – Member

Administrators present: Matthew Hickam – Superintendent, Tim McChristian – High School Principal, Denise Woodsides – High School Asst. Principal, Aaron Hill – Middle School Principal, Justin Engelmann – Elementary School Principal. Others present: Denise Hirsch – Recording Secretary, Matthew Benson – Board Attorney, Zach Jones - DEA Co-President, Pete Spitler – Du Quoin Weekly. A number of seniors were present for government class.

Before the meeting, Jane Pritchett from Vision Church and representing the Du Quoin Ministerial Alliance delivered a prayer.

	Item	Info	Action
I.	<b>Call to Order</b> The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.		
II.	<b>Roll Call</b> Present: Rodely, Waller, Rose, Harsy, and McPherson. Absent: Still and West.		
III.	<b>Reports</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>a. Building principals – The principals shared the Reasons We Are Proud items for the month.</li><li>b. Curriculum Director – On behalf of Mrs. Rea, Mr. Hickam reviewed the items shared by Mrs. Rea in their board packets. These items included the District's inclusion in a recent statewide research study conducted by the Illinois Association for Gifted Children titled, "Promising Practices for Equity &amp; Inclusion: A portrait of Six Illinois Schools". In addition, it was noted that the District was partnering with Khan Academy to evaluate the effectiveness of a new program for math mastery called Mastery Tower. This partnership stems from the recent connection made with Jason Chancey, a Du Quoin alum, who is a Director of Engineering at Khan Academy.</li><li>c. Superintendent - Mr. Hickam noted that this week included Board Member Appreciation Day as well as American Education Week. Thanks was expressed to board members for their work. Mr. Hickam expressed gratitude to Donna Lively and the kitchen staff for preparing Thanksgiving-style meals on Wednesday for the faculty, staff, and students and also noted that the District was providing meals for the staffs of each school and the bus drivers on Friday. Mr. Hickam shared that school report cards had been released by the Illinois State Board of Education and that each school in the District was designated as "Commendable". More information from the report card will be shared at the December meeting. Mr. Hickam shared that the District had recently submitted two grant applications - a School Maintenance Project Grant was written by Mr. Robbins and a grant through the Illinois Arts Council was written by Mrs. Rea. The School Maintenance Grant, if awarded, will be used to help fund the improvement of safety in the main entrance areas of the K-8 building. The Illinois Arts Council grant, if awarded, will be used to expand the art program and</li></ul>		

	offerings in the District. Lastly, Mr. Hickam shared that the Board had recently conducted interviews of superintendent candidates and was moving forward with additional steps with some of the interviewees.		
IV.	<b>Consent Agenda:</b> The Board approved the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The minutes of the October 20, 2022 regular Board of Education meeting;</li> <li>b. An agreement with Mary Smith regarding recognition of TRS service;</li> <li>c. The Risk Management Plan.</li> </ul>		
V.	<b>Public Hearing</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. DEA Representative - No comments</li> <li>b. Public - No comments</li> </ul>		
VI.	<b>Executive Session:</b> The Board entered into closed session to discuss a student disciplinary case, conduct a student disciplinary hearing and discuss minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval or semi-annual review, and the appointment, employment, compensation, and performance of specific employees in accordance with 5 ILCS 120/2 (c) (1).  The Board returned to open session at 7:00 PM.		
VII.	<b>Action of the Executive Session:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The Board approved the October 20, 2022 executive session minutes.</li> <li>b. The Board expelled student 2500010 for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.</li> <li>c. The Board accepted the retirement notices for Joyce Beckham and Kathy Pfeiffer for the end of the 2025-2026 school year.</li> <li>d. The Board accepted the resignations received from Isaac Miller as high school head volleyball coach and Bob Shaw as supervisory aide as received.</li> <li>e. The Board approved recommendations for hire/transfer/approval as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Richelle Lietz as art teacher for the 2023-2024 school year.</li> <li>b. The transfer of Mary Williams to DES secretary/bookkeeper for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year.</li> <li>c. The approval of Josh Heape as a volunteer coach for the 2022-2023 school year.</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		
VIII.	<b>Financial Items:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. The Board approved the payment of bills for October 2022.</li> <li>b. The Board approved the October 2022 financial report.</li> </ul>		
IX.	<b>New or Unfinished Business</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>A. The Board approved a resolution regarding a retirement incentive for administrators. This resolution memorialized the past practice of a four-year retirement incentive for current District administrators while stating a three-year incentive would be the future practice.</li> <li>B. Mr. Hickam shared the Annual Statement of Affairs for FY22 document with the Board and noted that it would be published, as required, in the newspaper.</li> <li>C. The Board considered the preliminary 2022 district property tax levy (payable in 2023). Mr. Hickam shared historical trend data for the District's request and Perry County's property tax value. He noted that the value of property, as determined by assessors, has grown by 43% since 2009 while the District's requested amount has grown by 16% in that same time period. He further noted that the District's tax rate has decreased for the past 9 years. The preliminary levy amount suggested was \$4,706,151. The Board expressed no concerns with the preliminary levy. The levy will be acted upon at the December meeting.</li> </ul>		
X.	<b>Adjournment</b> The Board adjourned at 7:30 PM.		