



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 K-8 MEDIA CENTER
THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 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, Diana Rea – Curriculum Director, Cory Robbins – District Business Manager, Tim McChristian – High School Principal, Aaron Hill – Middle School Principal, Justin Engelmann – Elementary School Principal. Others present: Denise Hirsch – Recording Secretary, Zach Jones – DEA Co-President, Pete Spitler – Du Quoin Weekly, A number of seniors were present for government class.

	Item	Info	Action
I.	Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 6:00 PM.		
II.	Roll Call Present: Rodely, Rose, Harsy, McPherson, Still and West. Absent: Waller.		
III.	Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Building principals – The principals shared their Reasons We Are Proud items. B. Curriculum Director – Mrs. Rea thanked Mr. Hickam and the Board for allowing a group of teachers and herself to participate in the National Association for Gifted Children conference in Indianapolis. It was an incredible learning experience for all who attended, bringing back so many ideas, strategies and new understandings about gifted/advanced students and best practices for serving this demographic group of students. Mrs. Rea congratulated the high school Engineering Team, facilitated by Zach Jones for winning the regional Congressional App Challenge. The team’s app solves a problem involving the high school club registry. Mrs. Rea thanked the following teachers who have participated in the initial steps of the DQ Honey Bee PD; Jaime Brown, 3rd grade; Mandie Davis, 4th grade; Sarah Phipps, Kindergarten; and Sammy Morris, 1st grade. The Honey Bee PD involves teachers observing other classrooms creating opportunities to “cross-pollinate” with new ideas and strategies. Mrs. Rea announced the Educator of the Month program at the district level. The Educator of the Month is an opportunity for peers and the community to elevate someone going that extra mile to support our students and schools. The Educators of the Month awarded in November were Ashley Cook, DES/DMS nurse; Marcy Robison, high school special education; and Jarek Speith, DES janitor. They each received a certificate, surprise recognition at school, website spotlight and school swag. C. Mr. Hickam let the Board know that the DMS band and chorus students and DHS band would be providing music at the Expo Hall on Friday night from 6:30-7:30. Mr. Hickam then shared with the Board some data noting challenges in overall student attendance in the District. He noted the impact of the flu season but also shared that each school is experiencing greater absenteeism for a variety of reasons. Principals are aware of this and schools are communicating as much as they can with families and looking for other ways to address the challenge. Mr. Hickam noted that other districts in the area are expressing the same concerns. Next, Mr. Hickam noted that, based on 2022 School Report 	X	

	<p>Card Data, the District continues to out-perform the state average on the achievement gap between students from low-income households compared to students from non-low-income households. He noted that he would be preparing a report for the Board for January which would show other comparison data from the Report Card. Mr. Hickam then shared with the Board that the District has received its first payment from property tax revenue. He noted that once the second installment was received in early January, the District would be able to repay interfund loans which have been executed to cover the funds which have been impacted by the extremely late execution of property tax bills. Lastly, Mr. Hickam noted the completion of the superintendent search process. In light of the intent to hire the position and the fact that the candidate was in attendance, he asked the Board to consider a brief closed session to discuss the employment of the position, then a return to open session to take action. There were no objections from the Board with the idea.</p>		
VI.	<p>Consent Agenda: The Board approved the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. The minutes of the special Board of Education meeting on November 14, 2022 and November 17, 2022 regular Board of Education meeting. 		X
V.	<p>Public Hearing</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. DEA Representative – No comments B. Public – No comments 		
VI.	<p>Executive Session: The Board entered into closed session at 6:18 PM to discuss minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval or semi-annual review, to review a student disciplinary case, and to discuss 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 6:35 PM.</p>		X
VII.	<p>Action of the Executive Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Board President Brian Rodely stated, “After a thorough and deliberate search process, the Board of Education is ready to take formal action to employ the next superintendent to take over on July 1st. The Board would like to thank Dr. Brad Colwell for assisting in the search process. The Board would also like to thank DEA Co-Presidents Donna Lively and Zach Jones as well as Mrs. Rea for providing their input during the interview process. At this time, I would entertain a motion to approve a 3-year contract with Dr. Steve Mayerhofer as superintendent to begin July 1, 2023.” Dr. Steve Still made the motion and it was seconded by Amy Rose. The motion passed with unanimous approval. All in attendance applauded and Dr. Mayerhofer was congratulated by the Board and administration. 		
VIII	<p>Executive Session: The Board entered into closed session again at 6:40 PM to discuss minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval or semi-annual review, to review a student disciplinary case, and to discuss 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 7:38 PM.</p>		
IX.	<p>Action of the Executive Session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. The Board approved the November 14, 2022 and November 17, 2022 executive session minutes. B. The Board rescinded the expulsion of student 2600084. (This student now has an IEP and is receiving education and support at Ward School.) C. The Board accepted the revised retirement notice from Tena Rennison as received. D. Consideration of the employment of: 		<p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Classroom aide position – The Board transferred Elizabeth Kremer to the position of classroom aide for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year. b. EOC aide position – The Board employed Susan Hagene as an EOC aide for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year. c. Custodian – The Board employed Isaac Saylor as a custodian for the remainder of the 2022-2023 school year. d. High school athletic director – The Board tabled this item for future consideration at a special meeting. (A date is to be determined for January.) e. Head football coach – The Board tabled this item for future consideration at a special meeting. (A date is to be determined for January.) 		<p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p>
X.	Financial Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. The Board approved the payment of bills for November 2022. B. The Board approved the November 2022 financial report. 		<p>X</p> <p>X</p>
XI.	New or Unfinished Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Mr. Hickam and the Board reviewed the agreement with City of Du Quoin regarding school resource officer. Mr. Hickam noted that the agreement is to be reviewed annually, but it has not been changed or updated since it was put in place in 2017. He noted that when the agreement was put in place, the SRO was serving only District 300 schools while the county was providing service to Tri-County Special Education at Ward School. Now, the city was serving Ward School as well. He noted that the work hours and compensation to the city (\$14,000) has not been changed or updated and noted that District is seeing more than the ten hours per week stated. Mr. Hickam noted that he would be getting together with Chief Ingram at DQPD to discuss possible updates which can be considered for the next school year. B. Mr. Hickam shared a job description for an aide position to assist English Language Learners. He noted that the job description was based on the current description in place for classroom aides with the necessary additions required fluency in a second language. The Board approved the job description for ELL aide as presented. C. Mr. Hickam reviewed the requirement to adopt a tax levy and the proposed request which had been shared at the previous meeting. He noted the requested amount was an increase of just 0.68% and would very likely result in another rate reduction on the District’s portion of the property tax statement. The Board adopted the 2022 district property tax levy (payable in 2023). D. As a 1st 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"> - 2:100 Board Member Conflict of Interest - 2:210 Organizational School Board Meeting - 4:10 Fiscal and Business Management - 4:140 Waiver of Student Fees - 4:165 Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behavior - 5:20 Workplace Harassment Prohibited - 5:120 Employee Ethics; Code of Professional Conduct; and Conflict of Interest - 5:220 Substitute Teachers - 5:250 Leaves of Absence - 5:280 Educational Support Personnel: Duties and Qualifications - 5:320 Educational Support Personnel: Evaluation - 5:330 Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves - 6:260 Complaints About Curriculum, Instructional Materials, and Programs - 6:310 High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students - 7:50 School Admissions and Student Transfers to and from Non-District Schools - 7:70 Attendance and Truancy 	<p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p> <p>X</p>	

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 7:180 Prevention of and Response to Bullying, Intimidation, and Harassment - 7:250 Student Support Services - 7:285 Anaphylaxis Prevention, Response, and Management Program - 7:290 Suicide and Depression Awareness and Prevention - 7:340 Student Records 		
XII.	Adjournment The Board adjourned at 8:09 PM.		X