



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, MARCH 16, 2023
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, Justin Engelmann - Elementary School Principal, Denise Woodsides - Assistant High School Principal. Other present: Dr. Steve Mayerhofer - Superintendent-elect, Denise Hirsch - Recording Secretary, Zach Jones - DEA Co-President, Donna Lively - DEA Co-President, Pete Spitler - Du Quoin Weekly, Scott Satterlee - White & Borgognoni Architects.

Prior to the meeting, Jeff Baker offered a prayer on behalf of the Du Quoin Ministerial Alliance.

	Item	Info	Action
I.	Call to Order The meeting was called to order at 6:01 PM.		
II.	Roll Call Present: Rodely, Rose, McPherson, Still, and West. Absent: Harsy and Waller.		
III.	Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Building Principals -The Reasons We Are Proud items were shared by Mr. Engelmann, Mrs. Woodsides, and Mr. Hickam on behalf of Mr. Hill. (See attachment) b. Curriculum Director- Mrs. Rea shared updates related to matters of curriculum and instruction including each school's recent participation in the "Brain Games" hosted by the Regional Office of Education and the February Educators of the Month. (See attachment) c. Operations & Maintenance - Mr. Robbins noted the recent resignation of a custodian at the high school and efforts to fill the position. He also noted a meeting upcoming with a representative from an energy consortium regarding solar energy possibilities. A technical drawing of the softball field with preparations for the installation of turf in the summer was shared with some discussion occurring with the Board including the verification that options were being looked at to extend the height of the backstop fencing. Mr. Robbins also noted that the District would be bidding the mowing contract soon. d. Superintendent - Mr. Hickam noted the District's recent successful effort for a competitive grant through the Illinois Arts Council. Mr. Hickam had Mrs. Rea, as the grant architect, share information with the Board which included the expansion of art instructors so that each school would have a dedicated art teacher. This grant is a 3-year grant. Mr. Hickam noted the grant included an agreement with the Tamaroa school district which would allow the sharing of the elementary art teacher and allow Tamaroa students to receive art instruction. Mr. Hickam then shared information on the topic of school safety noting the improvement of the main entrances at the K-8 building in the summer and the improvements in the camera system at the high school. In addition, he noted this year's administration of the 5Essentials Survey and that data from this survey would be used as a means of helping determine student's feelings/perceptions of school safety. 		

IV.	Consent Agenda: The Board approved the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The minutes of the February 9, 2023 special meeting, the February 16, 2023 regular Board of Education meeting, and the February 27, 2023 special meeting; b. A user agreement for the reporting portal of the Illinois State Police pursuant to the completion of clear and present danger reports in accordance with Firearms Owners Identification Card Act (430 ILCS 65/8.1). 		
V.	Public Hearing <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. DEA Representative - No comments b. Public - No comments 		
VI.	Executive Session: The Board entered into closed session at 6:37 PM to discuss minutes of meetings lawfully closed, whether for purposes of approval or semi-annual review, 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 8:42 PM.		
VII.	Possible Action of the Executive Session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. The Board approved executive session minutes for February 9, 2023, February 16, 2023 and February 27, 2023. B. The Board approved the following resignations: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Trebor Mann as physical education teacher; b. Lori Eaton as DMS secretary; c. Trevor Dunmyer as a custodian; d. Jason James as head boys' basketball coach; e. Chuck Montgomery as an assistant boys' basketball coach. C. Consideration of the employment of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Board offered a 3-year contract to Eric Kirkpatrick as high school principal. b. The Board offered a 3-year contract to Denise Woodsides as Principal for Instruction at the high school. c. The Board offered a 3-year contract to Zach Jones as high school assistant principal. d. The Board re-employed licensed probationary continued contractual and tenured licensed faculty for the 2023-2024 school year. e. The Board passed a resolution for the annual reduction-in-force notices for certain extra-curricular positions held by non-association members in accordance with the collective bargaining agreement between the Du Quoin Education Association and Board of Education. f. The Board employed Amanda White as the elementary computer teacher for 2023-2024. g. The Board employed Nicole Bauman as the middle school supervisory aide for 2023-2024. h. The Board employed Branden Morris as high school assistant track coach for the spring 2023 season. 		
VIII.	Financial Items: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. The Board approved the payment of bills for February 2023. b. The Board approved the February 2023 financial report. 		
IX.	New or Unfinished Business <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. The Board considered and awarded the bid for the K-8 main entrances safety improvement project (School Maintenance Project Grant) to Evrard Construction in the amount of \$142,418. B. The Board approved a public hearing for consideration of the renewal of a waiver for non-resident tuition for students of faculty/staff members to attend District 300 schools. C. The Board approved the recommendation from the superintendent committee formed in accordance with board policy to name the high school baseball field in recognition of Don Stanhouse - "Don Stanhouse Field". D. The Board considered student handbook updates for 2023-2024 school year. 		

	<p>E. The Board authorized the administration to amend the FY23 school district budget.</p> <p>F. The Board formally set the end-of-year dates including 8th grade promotion. May 24th was designated as the last day of student attendance (half day) and the date for the 8th grade promotion ceremony.</p> <p>G. The Board considered and adopted the 2023-2024 school year calendar as presented by the DEA Calendar Committee and administration.</p> <p>H. The Board considered a date for the board organizational meeting after the consolidated election on April 4th. Mr. Hickam was directed to poll all board members then report results to Board President Brian Rodely. Mr. Rodely will then call a special meeting for the date which works best for members. Mr. Hickam indicated he would inform all candidates for the board so that they could plan accordingly.</p>		
X.	<p>Adjournment</p> <p>The Board adjourned at 9:09 PM.</p>		



Du Quoin CUSD 300

Working Together for All Students

Reasons we are proud...

DES

- This month the elementary students will be celebrating Friendship as our core value for our Choose to be Nice promise.
- I would like to congratulate 4th graders Michael Draege and Kai Riley for being selected to attend the Illinois Principals Association Student Recognition Breakfast.
- Congratulations to the 3rd and 4th grade students who competed at Brain Games. The team of Marlee Engelmann, Holden Harsy, Nixon Porter, and Sofie Williams finished in second place and will be moving on.



- Elementary Papoose Pride winners for the Month of February were 4th grade Kearstin Stanhouse, 3rd grade Cody Heape, 2nd grade Lennon Jetton, 1st grade Fletcher Yancey, and Kindergarten Briella Henry.



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DMS

- 8th graders Hunter Harsy and Lucy Milam represented DMS at this year's Illinois Principals Association Student Recognition Breakfast.
- Congratulations to Mrs. Robin Yancey for being selected as our Teacher of the Month for February. Mrs. Yancey is our 8th grade math teacher.



- Our February students of the month:



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DHS

- The Students of the Month for March were Hanna Bartnicki and Xander Ingram.



- Congratulations to Carley Somers and Cooper Iman who ranked 1st and 2nd in their section in the All-Conference Band event in Carbondale. Even as a Junior and sophomore, they are among the best musicians in the River-to-River Conference.



- Congratulations to Kallie Oestreicher for being named to the Southern Illinois River-to- River Mississippi Division Girls Basketball All-Conference Team. This year, Kallie also set the single season scoring record for the Lady Indians.

- Mar 1, 2023 was the IPA Principals Breakfast in Mt. Vernon.

The two students being recognized this year were Lauren Bauman and Malayna Russell.



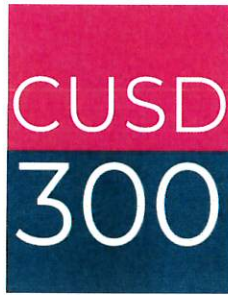
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March 2023

- The Mr. Du Quoin event, sponsored by the DHS Pep Club, was held on Thursday, March 2. The overall winner was Owen Cornett .



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... Curriculum Director Report

- The District Leadership Feb. 28 team meeting was focused on the topic of family engagement and community partnerships. Highlights from the meeting included data reports from the school report card and district assessment data. Both point to positive moves with regard to achievement across the district. During the collaborative meeting, family engagement opportunities were discussed and over 20 community partnerships were identified outside of the many job shadowing opportunities for high school students with area businesses across the community.
- The February Educators of the Month honorees for advancing the district vision of "Working Together for All Students" are Mandie Davis, DES special education/4th grade homeroom teacher, Hannah Sims, high school special education teacher, and Haley Stanton, 5th grade special education teacher. Peer and community recognition of these teachers speaks to our special education programming and dedication of those who serve students with "abilities" to use their expertise with dedication to students, desire to learn professionally and devotion to improving the educational landscape for all students. The website announcement can be access here [Educators of the Month](#)



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- The week of Feb. 14 - 17 was one for the scholars of Du Quoin CUSD to shine! During this week, student teams, selected by their teachers, participated in an area competition called Brain Games. Unlike scholar bowl events with points for responding first and correct, in the Brain Games students worked as a team on various academic challenges earning points for each area based on a rubric. The Games challenges included trivia, math problem solving, history, poetry writing, art projects, engineering challenges and more. This is an extension to our gifted/advanced programming across the district, with each group being sponsored by a teacher of the gifted, Leah Winter from high school, Missy Montgomery for middle grades, and Kimberly Loyd and Jennifer Craft for elementary grades. We had eight teams participate across the grade levels 3rd - high school with five of those advancing to the next level for regional competitions. The following includes photos from the competition days, identifying the student teams advancing to the regional game competition.



Du Quoin High School teams consist of one student from each grade level freshman through senior: (Pictured L-R): Isla Calderon, McKenzie Pearl, Aaron Fikuart and Xander Ingram (left) working on team challenge. Ella West, Katlin Tripp, Najjar Khalil, and MacKenzie Edwards (below) placed 4th and will advance on to regional competition.



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Students participating from 7th-8th grades include (L-R pictured left) Anna Phipps, Reece DeHart, Gannyn Funk, and Gavin McCowen. (pictured top L-R) Charlee Pursell, Bookelyn Emrich, Beckett File, and Joshua

Vancil. Impressive work by the team on the left who took 1st place overall out of 27 teams.

Both of the 5th-6th grade teams placed in their Brain Games advancing on to regional play. The student participants included Tucher Wright, Harrison Still, Kylie Davis, Ashlyn Stode (6th place) Bella Richardson, Aubrey Watson, Noah Koehn, and Jace Davis (4th place).



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On the final day of the Brain Games, 3rd and 4th grade students competed again with Du

Quoin coming away with an advancing team.

Students participating included (Pictured Left L-R) Michael Draege, Thomas Foster, Charlotte Furlow, Naomi Davison and (Below L-R) Nison Porter, Holden Harsy, Marlei Engelmann and Sophie Williams. This team placed 2nd overall and will advance on to the regional competition.



Congratulations to all the students on their dedication to hard work around creative and critical thinking! We are proud and celebrate every student on being selected for the Brain Games and their collaborative work during these completion days!



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