

**MINUTES OF A SPECIAL JOINT MEETING
OF THE BOARDS OF EDUCATION OF
COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICTS #201 & #203,
MERCER COUNTY, ILLINOIS.**

The Boards of Education of Community Unit School District #201 & #203, Mercer County, Illinois, convened at a special joint meeting at the Aledo High School Library, 1500 South College Ave., Aledo, IL, on Monday, December 17, 2007 at 7:00 p.m.

On roll call, the following members answered present: Unit #203 – Boruff, Hedrick, Retherford, Trimble, G. Welch, K. Welch, & Willits. Unit #201 – Speer, Hank, Ball, & Tucker.

Absent for #201: Forret, Benson (arrived at 7:45 p.m.) and Shoemaker (arrived at 7:45 p.m.)

Also present: Supt. Alan Boucher and Supt. Robert Haskell; Unit #201 Principals Fleurette and Nelson and Unit #203 Principal Reed; #201 faculty member James Shaidnagle and #203 faculty member Marcia Garrett; no reporters; Committee of Ten – Cheryl Brown, Dan Callahan, Stefanie Carey, Eric Coulter, Rachel Fowler, Stacey Gramley, Vic Johnson, Jeannette Neeld, & Neil Truman; also present Brad Krstic and secretary Connie Hilligoss.

Prior to the meeting, a tour of the Aledo High School was conducted by Supt. Alan Boucher.

The two boards discussed the sub committee parameters and responsibilities that will be presented to the Committee of Ten. There will be five sub committees: (1) curriculum/personnel; (2) finance/legal; (3) transportation/extra-curricular; (4) transition/marketing; and (5) facilities. There will be 2 co-chairs from each district on each sub committee. Besides what was already determined (handout), additions were made to various committees. The preschool program, dual credit, and contract issues were added to the curriculum/personnel committee. The two superintendents will look into hiring an attorney for the consolidation process as part of the finance/legal committee. We must remember that no district money can be spent to promote consolidation. The idea of the transportation/extra-curricular committee to add choosing a new name, new mascot, and new colors was debated but several felt that should be part of the newly formed district's responsibilities if the consolidation passes. Fund-raising was added to the transition/marketing committee. The number of periods, special education classes, curriculum mapping, and food service were added to the facilities committee.

Both boards of education agreed they would like to merge their codes of conduct into exact documents since we co-op a large number of sports already. This process could be done for the 2008/09 school year and be in place even if the consolidation does not pass.

The boards agreed that it would be advantageous for the Committee of Ten to meet with representatives from two other consolidated districts (West Central & United) to hear suggestions and answer questions regarding the responsibilities of the Committee of Ten prior to meeting with the two boards later in January. In the meantime, the feasibility study would be given to the Committee of Ten. The superintendents will call West Central and United and set a tentative meeting date of Jan. 10, 2008, 7:00 p.m. at Joy for interaction between the Committee of Ten and representatives from the two consolidated districts. Joint meeting dates with the two boards and Committee of Ten were discussed along with Points of Agreement (handout). Both boards emphasized the need for the Committee to meet in all buildings to see all facilities.

The next meeting date for the joint boards and the Committee of Ten is January 22nd, 7:00 p.m., at Apollo where the boards will state their charge to the Committee of Ten. In the meantime, the Committee may meet independently to determine their membership in each sub committee, to set meeting dates, to discuss the feasibility study, and to formulate questions they may have after meeting with West Central and United.

The joint board meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Marta Tucker, President, Board of Education

Laurie Benson, Secretary, Board of Education

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