



**GENEVA COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 304  
227 NORTH FOURTH STREET, GENEVA, ILLINOIS  
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF A REGULAR SESSION  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 304 met in a regular session on Monday, February 27, 2017, at 7:00 p.m. at the Coultrap Educational Services Center, 227 North Fourth Street, Geneva, Illinois

**1. CALL TO ORDER (Bylaws 0163 & 0164)**

- 1.1 Roll Call
- 1.2 Welcome
- 1.3 Pledge
- 1.4 Reminder to sign attendance sheet

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Grosso.

Board members present: Policy Committee Chair Leslie Juby, David Lamb, Mike McCormick, Kelly Nowak, Mary Stith, Bill Wilson, President Mark Grosso. Late: None. Absent: None.

The President welcomed everyone, reminded them to sign the attendance record, and lead them in the Pledge of Allegiance.

District staff present: Anne Giarrante, Director Student Services; Kristy Poteete-Kriegermeier, Communications Coordinator; Dr. Andy Barrett, Assistant Superintendent Teaching & Learning; Dr. Adam Law, Assistant Superintendent Personnel Services; Donna Oberg, Assistant Superintendent Business Services; Dr. Kent Mutchler, Superintendent.

Others present: Bob Shiffler, Brenda Schory, Mary Jane Johnson, Laura Mutchler, Katie Mutchler, David Mutchler, Craig Meadows, Melissa & Shaun Israel.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

*Per Board Policy 0167.3, Section C, Attendees wishing to speak at the Board meeting must register their intention to participate in the public portion(s) of the meeting upon their arrival at the meeting. Complete the form found in the [Welcome to Our Meeting](#) brochure (print legibly) and give it to the Presiding Officer or the Recording Secretary before the meeting is called to order.*

Bob Shiffler, from the Geneva Public Library, spoke on behalf of the upcoming referendum and shared that the library received a grant for a joint program. The Library Board and staff looked at the needs of the community to determine how they can best meet these needs. Currently, the library is only providing 85% of services they should be providing for a 21<sup>st</sup> Century library. As new services and resources are provided, the library has to make tradeoffs. Even though the library is providing a lower level of service than they desire, it is costing them 130% of what it should cost. The building is inefficient for staff, as they are spread all over the current building, which hinders communication. There are also high maintenance costs because of the aging systems in the building. The Library Board concluded that the best option is to build a new facility. Land has been purchased at the site of the old Sixth Street School, so that they can still maintain a downtown presence. If they are successful with the referendum, the final design would take place after the financing is approved. It is estimated to cost \$22.1 million to build a new facility with \$300,000 being drawn from reserves, and \$21.8 million in bonds. This would cost the average homeowner in Geneva with a \$300,000 home approximately \$8.25 per month for the life of the 20 year bond. Please come out and vote on April

4<sup>th</sup>. More information can be found at [www.gpldnewbuilding.org](http://www.gpldnewbuilding.org).

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Bylaw 0168.1)**

3.1 Regular Session, February 13, 2017

3.2 Executive Session, February 13, 2017

Motion by McCormick, second by Nowak, to approve the above-listed minutes, items 3.1-3.2 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

**4. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARING**

4.1 Student Services and ALOP Update

Director of Student Services Anne Giarrante and Christina Amico gave a recap of their ALOP presentation from last year, and an update of what's happening this year. ALOP was designed to offer a blended approach to learning, communication with regular education teachers, have collaborative communication with counselors, social workers and the ALOP teacher, individualized support, self-paced learning and ongoing feedback to students. There were 13 students in the ALOP program in grades 9 through 12, with the highest number being seniors during the first semester. We hope to see this number drop in the future. There are multiple reasons students need additional support including as post-hospitalization and credit deficiency. This program has had many positive outcomes, and we are already seeing improvement based on data from the first semester of the 2016-2017 school year compared to last year. The second semester started with 17 students, seven of them being from the first semester. This program has received positive parent feedback and now offers 29 course enrollments for students. As we move forward, we plan to utilize ALOP as an added intervention, identify students prior to their senior year, and increase the overall graduation rate.

4.2 17/18 Pre-Preliminary Budget Discussion

The Assistant Superintendent of Business Services presented to the Board the pre-preliminary budget for 2017/2018. This year's revenue assumptions are based on property taxes, State and Federal and local funds, general state aid, student technology fees, preschool program and the bus buy-back program. The expenditure assumptions include salaries with contract increases, benefits (6% increase), purchased services, supplies, O&M, Security and Technology Capital Plans, bus purchases, and pension shift costs. Retirements are not included. Based on these assumptions, the projected revenue for 2017/2018 is \$99,035,894 and the projected expenditures are \$105,368,929. The beginning fund balance is projected at \$54,314,168, with a projected ending fund balance of \$47,981,133. If there were a property tax freeze, there would be an estimated \$1,728,171 decrease in revenues.

Board comments, questions, concerns: It would be hard for them to freeze the EAV with new properties coming in. You mentioned that the pension shift was included in the expenditures, but you did not tell us how much? (Approximately \$200,000.) If the State enacts the tax freeze and pension shift, we will be short an estimated \$2 million? (Yes.) So that \$2 million would have to come out of something else that we have to pay for? (Yes.)

4.3 District Metrics Follow-Up – Dr. Andy Barrett & Shonette Sims

Assistant Superintendent of Learning & Teaching Dr. Andy Barrett and Director of Learning & Teaching Shonette Sims provided to the Board a follow-up to the presentation given by Dr. Steve Cordogan at the last meeting. Data is only as valuable as how we use it. Going forward, data can be looked at two different ways. The Medical Model gives us the big picture evaluation, overall health, shows where we stand, and if there are any red flags. The Athletic Model is a more detailed model. It shows specific strengths and weaknesses, detailed diagnoses, alignment to practice and areas for improvement. The key indicators in the Medical Model are context, over time like measuring height, whereas in the District Model measurements are PARCC, MAP, AP and ACT. The general diagnosis is that our district is very healthy at this time. In the Athletic Model, we look for evaluation and improvement through local formative assessments, common course collaboration, teacher-to-teacher collaboration, building-level collaboration, and ongoing literacy-focused measures. As we continue to look ahead, we will have ongoing checkups, continue to seek areas for improvement, continue work and progress with local/formative assessments and explore options for improvement of the management and organization of local data.

Board comment, questions, and concerns: Are students testing online? (Yes.) Are there conversions from ACT to SAT? (Yes, but they are not valid with the new testing.)

## 5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Policy 1210)

The Superintendent shared that the girls' basketball team is playing tonight, and if they win, they will go to State. Boy's regionals start tomorrow at Downers Grove North, so we are wrapping up some of the winter seasons. Track started today, along with many other spring sports. We have 600 students participating in spring sports this year. Being involved in activities helps students to perform better academically. On Thursday, students will be dismissed early for parent/teacher conferences and PLC's. Friday is the County Wide Institute Day, and Geneva will be playing a large part in that.

Dr. Barrett shared that the Kane County ROE reached out to surrounding Learning & Teaching staff from around the county to participate in offering professional development for staff in the area. There will be three locations: Hampshire, West Aurora and Geneva. At each location, there will be a keynote speak in the morning and breakout sessions in the afternoon that will be led by teachers from across the county. Geneva has 50 staff members that will be presenting at various locations. There will be around 600 educators at Geneva High School participating in breakout sessions. Registration for GHS filled in about nine hours after opening. We will share feedback on how it goes.

## 6. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATION

### 6.1 2017-2018 Staffing Plan (Policy 3120)

The Superintendent thanked Board members for their hard work on this, and for seeing us through the steps in putting it together. We created an effective yet efficient staffing plan for next year. It is being recommended for approval.

Motion by Nowak, second by Juby, to approve the above-listed staffing plan, item 6.1 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

### 6.2 Policy Updates-Second Reading

- 6.2.1 Policy 2371, Remote Educational Program, **Revised**
- 6.2.2 Policy 2430, District-Sponsored Curricular Activities and Clubs, **Revised**
- 6.2.3 Policy 6145.01, Debt Management, **New**
- 6.2.4 Policy 6151, Bad Checks, **Revised**
- 6.2.5 Policy 6152, Student Fees, Fines, and Charges, **Revised**
- 6.2.6 Policy 6423, Use of Purchasing Cards, **Revised**
- 6.2.7 Policy 6610, Student Activity Fund, **Revised**

Motion by Juby, second by McCormick, to approve the above-listed policies, items 6.2.1 - 6.2.7 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

### 6.3 Student Discipline Recommendation

The Board President shared that this recommendation was addressed at the last meeting and is being recommended for approval.

Motion by Wilson, second by Juby, to approve the above-listed student discipline recommendation, item 6.3 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

### 6.4 Health Life Safety Amendment for GMSS

The Board President shared that this was mentioned in the budget presentation this evening, and has to do with the fire shutters at Geneva Middle School South. It is being recommended for approval.

Motion by McCormick, second by Wilson, to approve the above-listed Health Life Safety amendment, item 6.4 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

**7. WORK-STUDY TOPICS & FUTURE ACTION CONSIDERATION**

7.1 Proposed Student Fees for 2017-18 (Policy 6152)

The Assistant Superintendent of Business Services shared that there were no changes in registration fees for next school year. There were minor changes in course fees of \$2. Lunch and milk fees will remain the same. This will come back at the next Board meeting for possible approval.

7.2 Board Meeting/Presentation Schedule

The Superintendent shared that the Board continues to make changes as necessary and hopes that the community will continue to watch for future agenda items that might be of interest to them. This is a planning document that does change regularly.

**8. INFORMATION**

8.1 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter Review

8.2 Out-of-State Trip Request

**9. CONSENT AGENDA (Bylaw 0166.1)**

9.1 Monthly Financial Reports & Interfund Transfers

9.2 Personnel Report: Resignations, Retirements, Leave Requests, Changes in Assignment/FTE, New Hires (Policies 1520, 3120, 4120)

Resignations Certified Staff

Gough, Lori, GMSN/S, Speech Language Pathologist, 1.0 FTE, effective 6/5/17

Family and Medical Leave Certified Staff

Klos, Julia, GMSN, Family & Consumer Science, 1.0 FTE, effective 8/21/17-10/30/17

Leave of Absence Certified Staff

Murrey, Katelyn, GMSN, Math, 1.0 FTE, effective 2016-2017 – 1<sup>st</sup> year

Seidita, Laura, GMSS, Language Arts, 1.0 FTE, effective 2016-2017 – 2<sup>nd</sup> year

White, Therese, GHS, Social Worker, 1.0 FTE, effective 2016-2017 – 2<sup>nd</sup> year

Leave of Absence Certified Staff – Returning

Brady, Sandie, GMSS, Science, 1.0 FTE

Gratz, Lisa, GMSS/GMSN/FS, Certified Nurse, 1.0 FTE

Parrin, Joanna, GHS, Spanish, 1.0 FTE

St. Gean, Dan, GHS, English, 1.0 FTE

Leave of Absence Certified Staff – Not Returning

Engelhart, Heather, HSS, Grade 5, 1.0 FTE

Powell, Jenna, WES, Speech Language Pathologist, 1.0 FTE

Ring, Maggie, FS, Speech Language Pathologist, 1.0 FTE

Retirement Certified Staff

Alles, William, GMSS, Music-Instrumental, 1.0 FTE, effective 6/5/17

Krasinski, Nancy, WES, Acceleration/Enrichment, 1.0 FTE, effective 6/5/17

Livingston, Tom, GMSN, Technology Education, 1.0 FTE, effective 6/5/17

Stearn, Mary Ann, HSS, Librarian, 1.0 FTE, effective 6/5/17

Venneri, Diane, FES, Grade 5, 1.0 FTE, effective 6/5/17

New Hires Support Staff

Prater, Lisa, MCS, Special Education Assistant, 9 month, effective 2/27/17

Resignations Support Staff

Peters, Karen, MCS, Kindergarten Assistant, 9 month, effective 2/23/17

Guenther, Courtney, HES, Special Education Assistant, 9 month, effective 3/2/17

Reappointments/Reclassifications Support Staff

Reardon, Edward, from 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift Floater Custodian to O&M Technology Technician, 12 month, effective 2/20/17

Dibble, Robin, MCS, from Special Education Asst to Kindergarten Asst, 9 month, effective 2/27/17

Long-Term Substitutes Support Staff

Swanson, Chrissy (Lisa Bragg), HSS, Special Education Assistant, 9 month, effective 2/27/17-4/5/17

Retirement Support Staff

Fisher, Laura, HSS, Reading Tutor, 9 month, effective 6/5/17

9.3 Gifts, Grants, Bequests: \$32,900, Anonymous Donor, for Project Lead the Way

9.4 Gifts, Grants, Bequests: \$309,000, Fabyan Foundation, to support Fabyan Scholarships and

Technology

Motion by Nowak, second by Lamb to approve the above-listed items 9.1-9.4 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

**10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION**

None.

**11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS**

*Policy Committee, Finance Committee, Boundary Task Force, Communications Task Force, Facilities Task Force, Technology Task Force, Joint PTO, Geneva Academic Foundation, Geneva All-Sports Boosters, Geneva Music Boosters, Geneva High School Theater Boosters, GEARS, K-12 Discipline Committee, Geneva Coalition for Youth, PRIDE, Fox Valley Career Center, IASB/Legislative, IASB Kishwaukee Governing Board*

A Board member attended the PTO meeting at GMSS tonight. A huge thank you to the music directors at GHS and parents for chaperoning a trip to Florida. There was a pre-school meeting with Anne and Stephanie for parents of incoming preschoolers. This was a well-attended meeting with approximately 100 parent. Board members went to Springfield to lobby with legislators and to discuss topics such as the pension shift and property tax freeze. It was announced in Springfield that the property tax freeze is happening, and is not negotiable. Beth Purvis from the governor's office was also in Springfield to speak on funding reform. Copies of the "grand bargain" plan were distributed. Governor Rauner also presented in Springfield, and seemed to be influenced by Vision 20/20. Although he is for the property tax freeze, he did publicly announce that he does want to see a shift in funding and increase in income taxes. All agree that the evidence-based funding model is the way to go, but now it is putting money into it to move forward. Jim Burgett did a presentation that compared the State of Illinois to funding in the rest of our country. GHS invited Board members to come and see PLTW in motion with a pinball machine, ping-pong ball catapult, elevators, animated medical art and water bottle flipper. It was extremely interesting. They also visited the woods room where they were informed the students would be selling items that they have made to raise funds for Lazarus House. There was a DECA event this past week where Board members volunteered to be judges to help the DECA students prepare for their state competition. There were many students from different districts in attendance. All Board members are encouraged to visit classrooms to see the robotics, innovative designs and mechanical contraptions.

**12. NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**13. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER MATTERS PERTAINING TO COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC BODY AND ITS EMPLOYEES OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES [5 ILCS 120/(c)(2)]. (Bylaw 0167.2)**

At 8:40 p.m., motion by Juby second by Lamb, to go into executive session to consider matters pertaining to collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives; student disciplinary cases. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

At 9:28 p.m., the Board returned to open session.

**14. ADJOURNMENT**

At 9:29 p.m., motion by Wilson, second by Juby, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED March 13, 2017  
(Date)

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PRESIDENT

SECRETARY \_\_\_\_\_

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RECORDING SECRETARY