

**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, March 9, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at Williamsburg Elementary School, 1812 Williamsburg Avenue, Geneva, Illinois

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

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

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

District staff present: Martha Behlow, Kristy Poteete-Kriegermeier, Communications Coordinator; Mary Torrance, Director Transportation; Elizabeth Janowiak, Director of Technology; Tom Rogers, Principal Geneva High School; Dr. Andy Barrett, Director Learning & Teaching; Reed Allison, Dean of Students GHS, Brigid Buchman, Instructional Innovation Facilitator; Craig Collins, Assistant Superintendent Personnel Services; Donna Oberg, Assistant Superintendent Business Services; Patty O'Neil, Assistant Superintendent Learning & Teaching; and Dr. Kent Mutchler, Superintendent.

Others present: Taylor Egan, Michelle Langworthy, Joanna Parrin, Jordan Zimmeroff, Laura Stark, Natalie, Wayne & Nancy Valenta, Lori Dowd, Ann Murtaugh, Laura Beasley, Brenda Schory.

**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.*

None.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

3.1 Regular Session, February 23, 2015

Motion by McCormick, second by Juby, to approve the above-listed minutes, item 3.1 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, six (6), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, one (1), Wilson.

3.2 Executive Session, February 23, 2015

Motion by McCormick, second by Juby, to approve the above-listed minutes, item 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 HEARINGS**

4.1 Technology Plan

Elizabeth Janowiak presented to the Board the 2015-2016 Technology Plan. The vision and purpose of this plan is that technology is needed to reach our vision, it personalizes, extends & transforms, it

helps teachers innovate instruction, it streamlines district operations, and it expands stakeholder communications. The identified needs and preliminary recommendations are:

Learning & Teaching

GHS Student Devices (specific courses)  
6<sup>th</sup> Grade Portable Devices (1:1)  
Remaining 4<sup>th</sup> Grade Classroom Sets  
Continued Support of CTP Groups  
Maintain/Increase Digital Resources

Equipment & Services

Mack Olsen Gym Sound System  
Equipment Replacements  
Security Camera Expansion

Network Improvements

Increased Wireless Coverage  
- Classrooms and common areas  
- GMSN/GMSS athletic fields  
PoE Switches and Cabling as Needed  
Increased Internet Connectivity  
Firewall Enhancements/Redundancy  
Web Filter Fail Over  
Virtual Servers/Storage Upgrades

The estimated costs for the above would be: Learning & Teaching, \$817,000; Equipment & Services, \$93,000; Network Improvements, \$371,000.

Elizabeth also gave comparisons on leasing versus purchasing, which showed the pros and cons of each. More detailed information on this presentation can be found [here](#). We want students to be able to take devices home. In order to do this we need to purchase devices that are rugged by design, have cases for devices and we want parents to purchase insurance to protect devices. We also have a professional development plan that we are getting ready to roll out using our technology facilitators. We will also continue to use the technology integration matrix so that teachers can continue to assess their skills and implementation of technology, and then we are going to schedule monthly sessions for all of the teachers that will be working on this technology initiative.

Board comments, questions, discussion: What is a general lease time for computers? (Three years.) With devices and the way they become outdated we would probably buy new after three years anyway. Leasing makes sense if we are going to keep refreshing equipment. (Its sounds like you are committed to having new equipment in the student's hands.) How old are the computers the Board is using? (At least six years.) Would the 480 devices be obsolete in three years? (It's difficult to predict that. I would not say that because we are asking for the \$600 device which is a fully functioning device with Windows 8.1. It's smaller but it's equally functioning. If we were looking to purchase Chrome Books or Androids, then I don't know if I could be as confident saying the devices wouldn't be obsolete.) If you are a teacher and you have a four or five year old device, are you able to function just fine or does it hamper what they are doing? (I would say they are able function just fine, but it depends how you are using it.) I think the Board needs to have a discussion on what direction they want the Tech Department to proceed in. This has certainly raised some questions. We need to realize that as these devices age, the repair costs and labor could require more technicians. Does it require less work on our part or does one require more labor? (I think we need to address this when she comes back.) We also need to consider if we are going to ask parents to start sharing in the cost of the devices. The lease does not change the warranty status of a device. You have to purchase extended warranty to have repairs covered during the life of the device.

**5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

The Superintendent reported that he shared with the Finance Committee that the District received an email that we are receiving a meritorious budget award from ASBO International, which would be the fourth year in a row. This is becoming a tradition of excellence for our District, in that it recognizes budget preparation and communication and speaks to excellent financial management. Thank you to Donna Oberg. This is going above and beyond and certainly not many districts apply for this because of the amount of work it requires. Our juniors took the ACT last week, and this week we will begin PARCC testing. We have also started our staffing planning for next year. Just a reminder that spring break will be March 31 thru April 3.

**6. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATION**

**6.1 Annual Resolution for Dismissal: Certified Part-time Teachers**

Craig Collins presented the Annual Resolution for Dismissal which allows us to dismiss our part-time staff and gives us the greatest flexibility when it comes to putting our staffing plan together. Some of these part-time teachers may be asked to return. Taking this action ensures that we do not employ staff members who are not needed for the 2015-2016 school year.

Motion by McCormick, second by Wilson, to approve the Annual Resolution for Dismissal, Item 6.1. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

**6.2 Annual Resolution for Joint Agreement as Part of the FVCC**

Motion by Wilson, second by Juby, to approve the Annual Resolution for Joint Agreement, Item 6.2. 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 CONSIDERATIONS**

**8. INFORMATION**

8.1 Suspension Report

8.2 Meritorious Budget

**9. CONSENT AGENDA**

9.1 Personnel Report: Resignations, Retirements, Leave Requests, Changes in Assignment/FTE, New Hires

Certified Staff Resignations

Knewitz, Daniel, GMSS, Psychologist, 1.0 FTE, effective 6/2/15

Kratochvil, Julie, GMSS, Social Studies, 1.0 FTE, effective 6/2/15

Certified Staff Leave of Absence

Engelhart, Heather, HSS, Grade 5, 1.0 FTE, effective 2015/2016 school year

Support Staff New Hires

Scribano, Jennifer, FS, Special Education Assistant, 9 month, effective 3/9/15

Support Staff Resignations

Kohorst, Tom, GHS, Maintenance, 12 month, effective 4/16/15

Support Staff Retirements

Mezo, Karen, GMSS, 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift Custodian, 12 month, effective 8/6/15

Gauntt, Ellen, GMSS, Special Education Asst., 9 month, effective 6/2/15

Holsteen, Micki, GMSS, Special Education Asst., 9 month, effective 6/2/15

Crawford, Peggy, MCS, Administrative Assistant, 12 month, effective, 6/5/15

9.2 Bid Summary/Award, \$93,850.70, Midland Paper Company, to purchase copy paper for the District

9.3 Request for Purchase, \$93,850.70, Midland Paper Company, to purchase copy paper for the District

9.4 Request for Purchase: \$45,238, Sweetwater, Inc., to purchase a music recording studio for GHS, funded through the Fabyan Foundation

9.5 Request for Purchase: \$61,032, Heartland Business Services, to purchase 28 HP 810 Convertible Tablets w/Accessories & Warranty and 20 HP 840 Laptops w/Accessories & Warranty for Teachers

Motion by Nowak, second by McCormick, to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1 – 9.5. 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**

Mary reported on behalf of the Theater Boosters that Peter Pan is at Geneva High School Friday and Saturday for those that would like to attend. Thank you to our students and staff as this is really a fun

production. The quarterly Board meeting for the Board of Directors for IASB announced the importance of signing on to Vision 20/20 and having the legislators on board. The proposals for the year are not finalized but they are working on mandatory training for new members. Mike reported that he has been working with the HSS PTO to get their 501c3 status. Thank you to HSS PTO leaders Sara Walls and Chrissi Swanson for their work on this. Kelly reported that the Sports Boosters had their fundraiser two weeks ago, and it was very successful. We played with a board team that included a leadership team from the Theater Boosters and Geneva Academic Foundations. Great cooperation ideas came out of that, as we will be putting together something similar to the Joint PTO that meets on a regular basis with all of the leaderships to share ideas. Thursday night is the IASB dinner in Elgin. Leslie reported that she, Mary and Kelly took part in the PARCC test, and it was determined that they are as smart as 5<sup>th</sup> graders. They were able to witness how it seamlessly fits in with the curriculum. Dave reported that the GAF "Bowl Us Over" fundraiser was a success. The community was generous with items for the auction and over \$6,000 was raised.

*Policy Committee, Finance Committee, Boundary Task Force, Communications Task Force, Facilities 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, REMS Grant Advisory Board*

## 12. NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

### 13. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER MATTERS PERTAINING TO STUDENT DISCIPLINARY CASES [5ILCS 120/2(c)(9)]; THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES OF THE PUBLIC BODY OR LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC BODY [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)]; COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC BODY AND ITS EMPLOYEES OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)].

At 7:50 p.m., motion by Juby, second by Stith, to go into executive session to consider matters pertaining to student disciplinary cases; the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body; collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives;. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

### 14. ACTION POSSIBLE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

#### 14.1 Possible action on student expulsion

At 9:26 p.m., a motion was made by Wilson, second by McCormick to accept the administrations recommendation to expel Student A and in lieu of expulsion be placed in the Safe Schools Program through the end of the 2015-2016 school year. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

#### 14.2 Possible disciplinary action regarding bus driver

At 11:33 p.m., a motion was made by Wilson, second by Nowak, to release Aaron Hamilton of his duties as a bus driver for Geneva CUSD 304. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

At 11:39 p.m., motion by Wilson, second by McCormick, to go into executive session to consider matters pertaining to student disciplinary cases; the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body; collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives;. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

At 11:46 p.m., motion by Wilson, second by Stith, and with unanimous consent the Board returned to open session.

**15. ADJOURNMENT**

At 11:47 p.m., motion by Wilson, second by Juby, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED April 13, 2015 \_\_\_\_\_ PRESIDENT  
(Date)

SECRETARY \_\_\_\_\_ RECORDING  
SECRETARY