



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

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 304 met in a special session on Wednesday, December 19, 2018, at 6:00 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 6:00 p.m. by President Grosso.

Board members present: Taylor Egan, Policy Committee Chair Leslie Juby, Finance Committee Chair Dave Lamb, Mike McCormick, Vice President Kelly Nowak, Mary Stith, President Mark Grosso. Late: None. Absent: None.

Motion by Nowak, second by Lamb, to approve that Mike McCormick join the meeting by phone. On roll call, Ayes, six (6), Egan, Juby, Lamb, Nowak, Stith, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

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

District staff present: Dr. Adam Law, Assistant Superintendent Personnel Services; Dr. Kent Mutchler, Superintendent.

Others: Brigid Buchman, Carly Fuller, Jason Santo, Andrew & Alyssa Chudzick, Kelly Burns, Laurie Burns, Alicia Saxton.

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.

A community member and parent addressed the Board regarding the recent strike. She shared that she was embarrassed at how the Board handled the strike, especially the emails. They were the opposite of what she would want from her Board. They were not representative of working as a team. She was disappointed that the Board did not meet with the GEA for three days after the strike. She spoke with the Board President on the second day after the strike after sending an email and was told she had been misinformed regarding meeting dates between the Board and the GEA. She is also concerned about the email that went out about hiring subs to babysit students. The taxes she pays are not meant for her child to be babysat, but for her child to be educated. It was concerning that this was the Board's priority at the time. She was also informed by a community member that spoke to the Board President that the reason only one of the five strike days will be made up is because of plans with teachers, vacations and community members. When did vacations become the priority over educating our children? It feels like this was a punishment for the teachers, because they will not be paid for these missed days, but the ultimate punishment was to the children. She is also

confused about why the community was not informed via 304Connects about tonight's meeting. It feels like the Board is trying to "do something on the sly". She questioned how the money would be spent that was saved by not paying the teachers for those four days during the strike. She hopes there is a plan for that money and that the Board will share that information with the community. Lastly, at the November 12 Board meeting, one of your Board members indicated that you have no social media presence and that you don't argue back, so she suggests that all Board members adhere to that if it will be the Board's philosophy.

Board comments, questions, concerns: The Board President clarified that he did not say the GEA did not want to meet. What he said, was that the attorneys had been talking to find a date that both parties could meet. The Board was contacted on Tuesday afternoon and told that the date had been set for that Thursday. (What the parent recalled was that she was told the GEA was not willing to meet, but what she said was really said was that they were not willing to meet in a small group. Small groups are not meant for strike time.) The reality is, that most Boards in this state do not meet for negotiations. It's typically the attorneys, sometimes the President and Vice-President. One thing that should have been addressed at the last meeting was the presence of social media throughout the strike. A better way to get the correct information out there is by sitting down and talking with a Board member. The truth is very important at this time, and social media is hindering what the Board is trying to do. The Board President addressed a couple more issues by saying that these meetings are public meetings, and the Board meets when it works for all them as volunteers. He also shared that the money from the four days the teachers will not be paid for, that the GEA agreed to, will go toward the teacher's salaries. We had only budgeted for 3% increases, however we agreed to 3.9%.

A community member, parent and spouse of the first speaker addressed the Board regarding concerns from the teacher strike. He finds it very disturbing that the Board will not allow the teachers to make up all five days missed due to the strike. He was also concerned about the money from those days that will not be made up. He is not sure what the agenda is for tonight, but hopes it is not to discuss "lining the pockets of the administrators".

3. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER MATTERS PERTAINING TO 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)].

At 6:18 p.m., motion by Lamb, second by Stith, to go into executive session to consider matters pertaining to the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Egan, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, and Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

At 8:07 p.m., the Board returned to open session.

**4. POSSIBLE ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION
- Approval of Administrator Contracts for 2018-2019**

Motion by Lamb, second by Nowak, to approve the administrator contracts, item 4. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Egan, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

Motion by Lamb, second by Stith, to approve the Superintendents contract, item 4. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Egan, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

5. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:09 p.m., motion by Stith, second by Nowak, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED January 14, 2019
(Date)

_____ PRESIDENT

SECRETARY _____

_____ RECORDING
SECRETARY