



**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, November 16, 2020, at 7:15 p.m. at the Coultrap Educational Services Center, 227 North Fourth Street, Geneva, Illinois.

1. CALL TO ORDER (Policy 2:220)

1. Roll Call
2. Welcome
3. Pledge
4. Reminder to sign attendance sheet

The meeting was called to order at 7:15 p.m. by President Egan.

Board members present: President Taylor Egan, Vice President Mike McCormick, Larry Cabeen, Dan Choi, Policy Committee Chair Leslie Juby, Finance Committee Chair Dave Lamb, Alicia Saxton.
 Late: None. Absent: None.

The President welcomed everyone and lead them in the Pledge of Allegiance.

District staff present: Anne Scalia, Director Student Services; Mike Wilkes, Director for Technology; Laura Sprague, Communications Coordinator; Shonette Sims, Director Learning & Teaching; Dr. Andy Barrett, Assistant Superintendent Learning & Teaching; Dr. Adam Law, Assistant Superintendent Personnel Services; Dr. Dean Romano, Assistant Superintendent Business Services; Dr. Kent Mutchler, Superintendent.

Motion by McCormick, second by Choi, to approve Leslie Juby joining the meeting via Teams. On roll call, Ayes, six (6), Cabeen, Choi, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Policy 2:220)

1. Regular Session, October 26, 2020

Motion by Cabeen, second by Lamb, to approve the above-listed minutes, item 2.1. On roll call, Ayes, six (6), Cabeen, Choi, Juby, Lamb, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, one (1), McCormick.

3. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. National Board Members Day, November 16, 2020

Superintendent Dr. Kent Mutchler presented Board members with certificates honoring them for their volunteer work to our district and students.

2. Presentation of Chamber Award

Dr. Mutchler presented Board members and Geneva 304 staff with the Wood Award from the Geneva Chamber of Commerce. This is the highest honor you can receive from the Chamber. He thanked all Board members and staff for everything they do.

3. Update on Planning for Second Semester

Dr. Mutchler shared that there has been an increase in COVID cases in Kane County, so as noted in

a meeting of all Superintendents with representatives from the Regional Office of Education and the Kane County Health Department. They are recommending that every school in Kane County take an adaptive pause and go full remote from Monday, November 23 until Monday, December 7. The district is in constant contact with the Health Department and this will again be evaluated after Thanksgiving. In Geneva, we value the in-person learning if it can be done safely. Our data dashboard is on our website and is updated every Friday.

Board comments, questions, concerns: This is a recommendation, so was there discussion that indicated that most districts were going to follow this recommendation? (Yes, because of the number of cases. There were 350 new cases in Kane County over the weekend and we cannot say with 100% certainty that it is not being passed in our schools.) Did they recommend all grade levels? (Yes.) When you look at our district, the elementary level has had few cases. (Yes, but there are siblings, and our staff is stretched very thin. We know that for Thanksgiving, people are not necessarily going to follow the guidelines, and they will possibly gather in larger groups.) With the concern of rates going up in the community, and December 7 being our return date, what happens if we re-evaluate and extend our pause? Does this put us in a bad position with families that need daycare? (We will watch this over the next week and a half, and hopefully give them adequate notice. We talked about deciding too far in advance, so this will be an ongoing discussion.) We have seen trends this fall, and there is always a spike after a long weekend or break. We are doing what we need to do to keep our students safe, but it is what comes into the buildings that we cannot control. What kind of data are we utilizing to make sure we get our kids back in school on December 7? (We would continue to work with the Health Department, as they are pushing this pause.) Having kids in school makes the tracking easier for us, but we are pushing our healthcare providers in the schools and this pause will give us a chance to give them a break. We will ask parents to report positive cases also. Have we done anything proactive for our high schoolers in communicating that they should not be gathering in large groups and should be wearing a mask? (Yes, on a regular basis.) Thank you to all our nursing staff. This pause is well deserved. If you look at the number of days following the holiday weekend, December 7 is not enough time. (An additional week could be added.)

Dr. Andy Barrett and Shonette Sims presented to the Board an update on planning for the second semester. They shared that, in the beginning, parents who chose online only learning were asked to make a commitment through at least December 2020. As the situation evolves, we continue to monitor the most up-to-date information to develop options for January 2021 and beyond. The in-person /hybrid and online-only are separate, parallel tracks that create learning environments in which teachers can focus on one learning model for a given group of students. Transitioning between models is a 'bigger lift' for our district than in others. The more students that request transition, the more complicated the transition process will be. In our preliminary survey, we asked parents two questions that allowed us to project ranges for each model. While all efforts will be made to minimize the impact of transition, any change in learning model has the potential to impact teacher, team, schedule, A/B designation, and even building. Any change would be a commitment for the remainder of the school year. Our recommended approach is that we 'default' to current learning model placement. Families interested in switching models can complete an electronic change request. Interested elementary families will complete a 'ranked choice' process. Interested middle and high school families submit their request to change based on the provided criteria. The district will provide a formal option to each interested family with a window for acceptance. Final class placements will be made and remain intact for the remainder of the school year. The tentative timeline would begin November 30, with communication to families. On December 7, administration would begin analyzing results and determining options for families. On January 1, the district would provide options to families interested in change. From January 11-22, the transition process begins, and on January 25 new placements begin. Given the uncertainty of our current situation, the district may determine the need to reconsider the timeline for model selection and transition.

Board comments, questions, concerns: Is there transportation for elementary students if they cannot get into their home school? (The family could drive their children, or we have had conversations with our Director of Transportation, Mary Dunmead, and she thinks we could make transportation work for

these students.) The week we are starting the pause, could we consider stretching it out one more week? (Yes, we can consider this.) We are asking parents for fluidity and grace during this time of transition.

4. LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

Board Member Code of Conduct #8 - "I will be sufficiently informed about and prepared to act on the specific issues before the Board, and remain reasonable knowledgeable about the local, State, national, and global education issues."

There are no updates.

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT (Policy 3:40)

The Superintendent thanked everyone for their hard work during this pandemic. This teamwork is recognized in the Wood Award from the Geneva Chamber of Commerce.

6. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATION

1. Board Action on GHS Proposal for New & Modified Courses for 2021-2022 (Policy 6:40)

Motion by McCormick second by Cabeen, to approve the above-listed course modifications, item 6.1. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

2. Board Action on the Adoption of the Resolution Authorizing the Certificate of Tax Levy for 2020 (Policy 4:10)

Dr. Dean Romano shared that there have been no changes from the previous presentation. He highlighted for the community the definition of a levy in terms of how it comes up every year, and that the percentage does not reflect increases on tax bills.

Motion by Lamb, second by McCormick, to approve the above-listed resolution, item 6.2. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

3. Board Action on 2020-2021 Board Goals

The Superintendent shared that the goals proposed are what were discussed at the Board Retreat with adjustments based on those discussions.

Board comments, questions, concerns: I applaud your hard work, but it would be nice if the preceding two years ranking on those metrics could be included, so that we have historical context.

Motion by Saxton, second by Choi, to approve the above-listed goals, item 6.3. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

7. WORK-STUDY TOPICS & FUTURE ACTION CONSIDERATION

8. INFORMATION

1. Board Meeting/Presentation Schedule
2. FOIA Requests (Policy 2:250)
3. Suspension Report (Policy 7:200)

9. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Personnel Report: Resignations, Retirements, Leave Requests, Changes in Assignment/FTE, New Hires (Policies 3:50, 5:200, 5:280)

Family and Medical Leave Certified Staff

Gutierrez, Kalley, FES, Grade 1, effective 11/11/20-11/19/20

Paulsen, Sarah, HES, Grade 3, effective 4/26/21-6/4/21

Stone, Jason, FES, Grade 3, effective 1/8/21-1/29/21

Torrence, Kelly, HES, Kindergarten, effective 11/3/20-12/18/20

Long-Term Substitutes Certified Staff

Carlson, Maggie, GMSN, Language Arts, 1.0 FTE, effective 12/14/20-3/23/21

Carlson, Maggie, GMSN, English Learning, 1.0 FTE, effective 4/1/21-5/23/21
Packenham, Heather, HES, Kindergarten, 1.0 FTE, effective 11/3/20-12/18/20

New Hires Support Staff

Brady, John, TRAN, Bus Driver, effective 11/2/20
Eloso, Katelynn, GMSS, Special Education Assistant, effective 11/16/20
Ernst, Thomas, TRAN, Bus Driver, effective 11/9/20
Harder, Heidi, GMSS, Special Education Assistant, effective 10/19/20
Lydon, Del, WAS, Reading Tutor, effective 11/10/20
Maeck, Claudia, HES, Reading Tutor, effective 11/2/20
Ping, Mary Ann, CO, Benefits Specialist, effective 11/24/20

Family and Medical Leave Support Staff

Browne, Kristi, Co, Data Integration Specialist, effective 12/4/20-1/15/21
Diveley, Robert, All Buildings, Custodian, effective 11/9/20-TBD
Salazar, Francisco, GMSN, Custodian, effective 11/9/20-12/21/20

Resignations Support Staff

Mulholland, Tara, GMSS, Special Education Assistant, effective 11/13/20

Family and Medical Leave Administrators

Bidlack, Larry, GMSN, MS Administrator, effective 11/23/20-2/26/21
Romano, Dean, CO, Asst. Supt. of Business Services, effective 10/26/20-11/20/20

2. Accounts Payable (Policy 4:50)
3. Gifts, Grants, Bequests: \$17,650, Anonymous Donor, for Project Lead the Way (Policy 8:80)
4. Gifts, Grants, Bequests: \$1,000, Harrison Street Family, for personal headsets for students (Policy 8:80)
5. 2020-2021 Board Calendar – Updated
6. RFP Summary: \$975,347, Gordon Flesch Company, Inc., Copier/MFP provider (Policy 4:60)

Motion by McCormick, second by Choi, to approve the above-listed, items 9.1-9.6. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

(PRESS Policy 2:230) Public comments may be submitted to the Board of Education by completing the online form at this link between 6:30 and 7:00 p.m. Monday, November 16:

https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=1i7Ckoi_70Wyma3-X45o9p3XyADO-1Ksrt18A-2h-hUQVBQWDBMTFFBvkQ4TjdRVVZaVzRUQUdVWC4u. All comments submitted during this time will be read aloud at the meeting, holding to the District's five-minutes-per-comment policy.

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

The Facilities Task Force met today with a field trip to GMSS to look at the boiler. Scott Ney and his team do a great job of keeping things operating in the district. These boilers are well into their older years, so we may be looking for replacement at GMSS. One Board member participated in the Resolutions Delegate Vote for the Illinois Association of School Boards. There were 278 districts represented and it was a different format this year. The resolutions that we disagreed with them on were not brought up for vote. Board members attended the GHS PTO meeting on Tuesday and much of the conversation was around the online and A/B hybrid learning. Thank you to Mike Wilkes and his team for their thorough presentation of the copier recommendation. Board members are participating in the negotiations of the Bus Drivers' Working Agreement. Their agreement has expired, and they have been very patient with this process. This is a very positive group that loves what they do.

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)]. (Policy 2:220)

At 8:31 p.m., motion by McCormick, second by Cabeen, to go into executive session to consider matters pertaining to collective negotiating between the public body and its employees or their representatives. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

At 9:37 p.m., the Board returned to open session.

14. POSSIBLE ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. GSSA Contract MOU

Motion by Lamb, second by Cabeen, to approve the above-listed MOU, item 14.1. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:38 p.m., motion by McCormick, second by Saxton and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED December 14, 2020 _____ PRESIDENT
(Date)

SECRETARY _____ RECORDING SECRETARY