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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 15, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. at Geneva Middle School South, 1415 Viking Drive, 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 7:04 p.m. by President Egan.

Board members present: Larry Cabeen, Dan Choi, Jackie Forbes, Tammie Meek, Vice President/Finance Committee Chair Mike McCormick, Policy Committee Chair Alicia Saxton, President Taylor Egan. Late: None. Absent: None.

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

District staff present: Tim Baker, Security Supervisor; Mike Wilkes, Director for Technology; Laura Sprague, Communications Coordinator; Todd Latham, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services; Dr. Andy Barrett, Assistant Superintendent Learning & Teaching; Dr. Adam Law, Assistant Superintendent Personnel Services; Dr. Kent Mutchler, Superintendent.

Others present: Pat Hirschtick, Heidi DeMarco, Steve McHugh, Erik Minalga, Stephanie Bellino, Martha Paschke, Patti Hodge, Laura Petruce, Kristin Jones, Matt Mason, Chrissi Bretz, Molly Kozik, Amy Jones, Brad Raschke, Stephanie Fellingner, Kate Bochte, Tim Keske, Brynn Hanson, Stacie Meiners, Andrea H., David & Claudia Eichelberger, Amanda Lare, Tim Naylor, Jean Smith, Ryan Deniz, Lauren Sower, Mira Franco, John Zimny, Dan Ziem.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Policy 2:220)

1. Regular Session, October 25, 2021

Motion by McCormick, second by Choi, to approve the above-listed minutes, item 2.1. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, McCormick, Meek, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

3. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. National School Board Members Day – November 15, 2021

Superintendent Dr. Kent Mutchler presented the Board members with certificates for their dedication to education.

2. 2021-22 Truth in Taxation Hearing (Policy 4:10)

1. Public Hearing Agenda

The Board President called the hearing to order at 7:07 p.m.

2. 2021 Tax Levy Proposed Increase

Assistant Superintendent for Business Services Todd Latham shared that the district is asking the Board to approve the tax levy amounts in the following funds: Education Fund, \$56,100,000; O&M Fund, \$11,582,900; Transportation Fund, \$2,306,989; Municipal Retirement Fund, \$1.4 million; Social Security Fund, \$1,683,604; Fire Prevention & Safety Fund, \$1,544,000; and Special Education Fund, \$4,559,567; which totals \$79,177,060.

3. Levy Testimony

4. President Closes Hearing

Motion by McCormick, second by Choi, to close the above-listed hearing, item 3.2.1. On roll call,

Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, McCormick, Meek, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

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."

Jackie Forbes shared that last time she reported updates, the General Assembly was in veto session. They did have several bills that passed both chambers, and now await the governor's approval. There are five of them, HB594, HB1975, HB2778, SB1139, and SB1169. There was no more activity on these than usual. At the federal level, it was reported that there was the Infrastructure & Investment Jobs Act that was approved. Illinois is expected to receive about \$17 million from this act.

Going back to the IASB resolutions that were discussed at the last meeting, Ms. Forbes attended a webinar that presented additional information on the voting process. These are not laws, but the General Assembly can introduce resolutions that might become law. She inquired about abstaining and was told that IASB has no option to abstain on votes in years past. This year, there will be an app that is used to vote, but they do not know yet if abstain will be one of the options. There is new information regarding resolution #15, which is a law. What they are asking is to modify the law to say, "under 18" instead of "under 14". We did already agree on how we would vote, but, in light of the new information, she wanted to give everyone a chance to rethink their position on this resolution.

Board comments, questions, concerns: On resolution #2, we talked about our district not wanting to get in the way of other districts advocating for gun law. This resolution would not get most of our community's support, so a no vote is where we should stand. We did agree to vote no on this resolution. We should abstain, because if we were having to advocate for something for our individual district, hopefully other districts would not stand in the way of that. Gun safety is a priority, but gun control by anyone other than a police officer would be an error. On resolution #15, it felt as though not everyone knew this was a law looking to be extended. We had voted to not adopt this resolution at the last meeting. We should support a yes vote on resolution #15. It sounds like you are saying to vote yes on resolution #15 and no on resolution #2. It looks as though the majority want to vote no on resolution #15.

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

The Superintendent thanked the Board members for attending the recent PTO meetings. Attending these meetings gives the Board and administration the opportunity to thank the PTO board members for their hard work. PTO members do a great deal of volunteer work to help our students. As a reminder, there is no school for students next week. Monday and Tuesday are parent/teacher conferences that are in a blended format. Some are in-person, and some are virtual, depending on the parent's choice. We resume school following Thanksgiving on November 29th.

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

1. Board Action on GHS Proposal for New & Modified Courses for 2022-23 (Policy 6:40)

Motion by Forbes, second by Cabeen, to approve the above-listed proposal as presented, item 6.1. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, McCormick, Meek, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

2. Board Action on the Adoption of the Resolution Transferring \$385,550 from the Education to Debt Service Fund (Policy 4:10)

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

3. Board Action on the Adoption of the Resolution Transferring \$2,186,455 from the Operations and Maintenance to Capital Projects Fund (Policy 4:10)

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

4. Board Action on the Adoption of the Resolution Authorizing the Certificate of Tax Levy for 2021 (Policy 2:20, 4:10)

Motion by McCormick, second by Choi, to approve the above-listed resolution, item 6.4. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, McCormick, Meek, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

5. Board Action on the District Goals for 2021-22

Motion by McCormick, second by Meek, to table the above-listed goals for a future retreat, item 6.5. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, McCormick, Meek, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none

(0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

6. Board Action on the School Bus Bid (Policy 4:60)

Motion by McCormick, second by Cabeen, to reject the above-listed bus bid received on November 8, 2021, item 6.6. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, McCormick, Meek, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

Motion by Cabeen, second by McCormick, to extend the existing buy back agreement at a reduction of \$9,500 per unit, the above-listed bus, item 6.6. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, McCormick, Meek, 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)
4. Out-of-State Trip Request

9. CONSENT AGENDA

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

New Hires Certified Staff

Abshire, Carolyn, GMSS, Counselor, 1.0 FTE, effective 11/15/21

Long-Term Substitutes Certified Staff

Ritter, Kathleen, GMSN, Science, 1.0 FTE, effective 11/8/21-2/18/22

Weiler, Maureen, GMSN, Math, 1.0 FTE, effective 11/29/21-12/22/21

FMLA Certified Staff

Behrens, Kristin, GMSN, Science, 1.0 FTE, effective 11/8/21-2/18/22

Demich, Val, GMSN, Math, 1.0 FTE, effective 11/29/21-12/22/21

Markuson, Jay, GHS, Industrial Technology, Intermittent

New Hires Support Staff

Cabrera, Mike, GHS, Security, effective 10/25/21

Major, Melanie, GHS, Administrative Assistant, effective 11/15/21

Milan, Teresa, TRAN, Bus Driver, effective 10/25/21

Fruit, Stephanie, CO, Administrative Assistant, effective 11/15/21

Ping, Michaela, CO, HR Administrative Assistant, effective 11/1/21

Powell, Amanda, GHS, Custodian, effective 10/28/21

Prestidge, Mary, TRAN, Bus Driver, effective 11/11/21

FMLA Support Staff

Byas, Jody, GHS, Administrative Assistant, effective 11/29/21-1/9/22

Farley, Suzan, WES, Reading Tutor, effective 10/5/21-11/16/21

Szymczak, Kyle, All Buildings, Painter, effective 10/14/21-10/22/21

Resignations Support Staff

Graver, Chris, GHS, Security, effective 11/26/21

Jimenez, Roberto, All Buildings, On-call Custodian, effective 11/10/21

Manion, Kent, GHS, Security, effective 11/12/21

Reclassifications Support Staff

Amezquita, Kevin, FES, Custodian Floater to 2nd Shift Custodian, effective 11/8/21

Barrett, Laura, HSS, Library Assistant and Lunchroom Supervisor, effective 11/8/21

Browne, Kristi, CO, Data Integration Specialist to Student Information Systems Specialist, effective 10/4/21

Hutchison, Theresa, GMSN, Custodian Floater to 2nd Shift Custodian, effective 11/1/21

Kehrein, Jessica, GHS, On-Call Custodian to 2nd Shift Custodian, effective 11/1/21

Olson, Marla, HSS, Library Assistant to Special Education Assistant, effective 11/1/21

Retirement Support Staff

Snyder, Pamela, CO, Receptionist, effective 1/3/22

2. Monthly Financials - October (Policy 4:40, 4:55)

3. Gifts, Grants, Bequests: \$10,150, Anonymous Donor, for Project Lead the Way (Policy 8:80)

4. 2021 American Education Week Resolution

5. Pay Request #3: \$265,806.90, AMS Mechanical Systems, Inc., Boiler & Domestic Hot Water Storage Tank Replacement for GMSS

6. Pay Request #2: \$136,541.70, Preservation Services, Inc., Roof Repairs at GHS, Boiler House

& HSS

7. Bid Summary: \$499,666.650, Johnson Controls, Inc., for Direct Digital Controls for GMSN Motion by Cabeen, second by Meek, to approve the above-listed, items 9.1-9.7. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, McCormick, Meek, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

10. PUBLIC COMMENTS

(PRESS Policy 2:230) Per Board Policy 2:230, attendees wishing to formally address the Board must register their intention to participate in the public portion(s) of the meeting upon their arrival at the meeting. Complete the form 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.

Several parents and community members shared with the Board their thoughts and concerns about masking, parent volunteers in schools, vaccines, test scores and IASB resolutions #2 & #15.

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, and there are several Health & Safety repairs that will take place during the Thanksgiving break. There was also discussion on solar panels. Board members attended PTO meetings at Mill Creek and Middle School South, where they were able to thank the parent volunteers. We appreciate everyone who came out tonight to and who shared their thoughts and concerns with the Board. The Technology Task Force met and had discussions on the plans for technology next year. The Communications Task Force met today, and Laura Sprague shared about all the work that is being done on the website. Thank you to Laura for all her hard work. A Board member shared that her children were accepted into the GROW program that is at the elementary schools and funded by ESSER funds. It is great that we have this program for students who need additional support. Board members will be attending the IASB Annual Conference this weekend in Chicago. At a recent PTO meeting, it was noted that this year the fees that have been collected is very low. These funds go back into the classrooms, so we encourage everyone to support their PTO's.

12. NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

13. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:31 p.m., motion by McCormick, second by Meek and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED December 13, 2021
(Date)

_____ PRESIDENT

SECRETARY _____

_____ RECORDING SECRETARY