



**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, January 11, 2021, at 7:00 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 7:00 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 led them in the Pledge of Allegiance.

District staff present: 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.

Others present: None.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Policy 2:220)

1. Special Meeting, December 5, 2020
2. Executive Session, December 5, 2020
3. Regular Session, December 14, 2020

Motion by Juby, second by Cabeen, to approve the above-listed minutes, items 2.1-2.3. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

3. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS

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."

Leslie Juby shared that there are several things being discussed and bills being presented. They have until Wednesday to vote on them. The majority of things are the Black Caucus' four pillars, which have to do with education, healthcare, economic access, and criminal justice reform. There are a couple of things federally, but not a lot that will affect us until the new administration starts.

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

The Superintendent shared that the end of the semester is coming up, which leads to the issues

being covered tonight. We are planning adjustments to the Learning & Teaching Plan for second semester and also the calendar for the remainder of the year. We will also be looking at calendar drafts for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year.

6. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATION

1. Second Semester Learning & Teaching Plan Adjustments

Dr. Andy Barrett and Shonette Sims shared that several committees have met to make adjustments to the Learning & Teaching Plan. They reflected and considered the value of consistency, consistent synchronous learning, feedback and benefits of having all students back together. The recommendation to the Board is to schedule formal remote learning days on Friday's in five-day weeks, schedule formal synchronous learning, ensure 2.5 hours of live synchronous learning, provide asynchronous activities and support, and develop a plan that allows for some students to come into the buildings to work with teachers. This would provide consistency across the K-12 district, maintain consistency of a daily schedule, ensure one day with all students learning together, maintain capacity for managing health needs and exclusions/quarantines, and provide consistent, level-based schedules that ensure live, synchronous learning for all students. The new remote days would begin January 29th and continue until the end of the school year. As we move forward, we will complete remaining Remote Planning Day on January 15th, begin implementing Remote Learning Days on January 25th, implement live, synchronous learning on Remote Learning Friday's and continue to reflect on our practices.

Board comments, questions, concerns: With the five-day weeks, how many weeks are there? (There are 3-4 four-day weeks.) On weeks where Monday is a holiday, is Tuesday still a B day and Friday would be an A day? (Yes.) Were you going to talk about professional development (PD) days? (We are hopeful that we can still have some PD time. There are some scheduled on the calendar. We just kicked off a PD challenge with all staff.) It is important to note, for the community, that these presentations do not come to the Board without prior collaboration. What was heard in those meetings were several points about community comments. We do not know what is coming 2-3 weeks from now, so we have to plan in the here and now. This was the best choice for consistency in our community.

Motion by Juby, second by Lamb, to approve the above-listed plan, 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 Midwest Transit Bus Agreement (Policy 4:60)

Dr. Mutchler shared that this is an extension of our current agreement as part of the bus buyback program, so we are recommending to secure vehicles for next year and that this be approved by the Board.

Motion by McCormick, second by Juby, to approve the above-listed contract, 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 PTAB Appeal Resolution for Delnor Community Health Care Foundation

Board comment, questions, concerns: Have you taken into account the cost for attorney fees to fight this? (Yes, and that is why there is the threshold. We do have an agreement with other taxing bodies, and there is a vote by each one that takes place to determine if we should take action or not.)

Motion by Juby second by Lamb, to approve the above-listed resolution, item 6.4. 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

1. Policy Updates: First Reading – **Updated and Reviewed** (Policy 2:240)

1. Policy 3:40, Superintendent – Updated
2. Policy 4:80, Accounting and Audits – Updated
3. Policy 4:90, Student Activity and Fiduciary Funds – Updated

4. Policy 5:270, Employment At-Will, Compensation, and Assignment – 5-Year Review
5. Policy 6:20, School Year Calendar and Day – Updated
6. Policy 6:300, Graduation Requirements – Updated
7. Policy 6:310, High School Credit for Non-District Experiences; Course Substitutions; Re-Entering Students – Updated
8. Policy 6:315, High School Credit for Students in Grade 7 or 8 – 5-Year Review
9. Policy 6:320, High School Credit for Proficiency – Updated
10. Policy 6:340, Student Testing and Assessment Program – Updated
11. Policy 7:100, Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; Immunizations; and Exclusion of Students – Updated
12. Policy 7:140, Search and Seizure – Updated
13. Policy 7:300, Extracurricular Athletics – Updated

Leslie Juby asked to break out policies 6:310 and 7:100 for discussion. There is a question in policy 6:310 that needs to be answered and Board feedback is needed. The question is “Does the district allow substitutions in grades 9-12 (who are at least 16 years old) for PE and other required courses with participation in a registered apprenticeship program?”. We currently do not, and if we were to decide to say yes, then we would have to change our policy language. We do this with other programs. All Board members agreed that we should offer this to students. In policy 7:100, first section, number 3, in parenthesis, should “nursery school” be “pre-school”? Board members agreed that this language should be changed. All policies will go forward for a second reading with changes to policies 6:310 and 7:100.

2. 2021-2022 School Calendar Draft (Policy 6:20)

Dr. Barrett shared that there are two calendar drafts being presented for consideration for the 2021-2022 school year. Both calendars have a start date of August 16th, spring break the week of March 28th and the last day as May 27th. The one difference is winter break, with one beginning December 18th and the other December 23rd. Board members will vote on a calendar at a future meeting.

Board comments, questions, concerns: Do both calendars contemplate finals at the high school before winter break? (Yes.) Given that winter break ends earlier on calendar A than calendar B and the concern about the shorter first semester, should we worry about that? (Yes, and calendar B does give the first semester three more days. At the start of the year, the third week is a bit earlier than normal, so we do have a little extra time at the beginning of the year.) There was positive feedback about calendar B, because it gives you three more days in the first semester. We also have to consider winter break, because it would start later, which might interfere with family plans causing students to miss school. There is no perfect solution, but we do think we can have finals before the winter holidays.

8. INFORMATION

1. Board Meeting/Presentation Schedule
2. FOIA Requests (Policy 2:250)

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

Goodfellow, Emily, MCS, Learning Behavior Specialist, 1.0 FTE, effective 1/13/21

Long-Term Substitutes Certified Staff

Miller, Dan, GHS, Physical Education, 1.0 FTE, effective 1/4/21-3/26/21

Family and Medical Leave Certified Staff

Mui, Christina, GHS, ALOP, effective 4/16/21-6/4/21

Hills, Bryan, HSS, Physical Education, effective 3/22/21-4/23/21

New Hires Support Staff

Brown, Bobby, TRANS, Bus Driver, effective 1/4/21

Resignations Support Staff

Farrell, William, GMSS, Custodian, effective 1/4/21

George, Beau, All Buildings, Custodian Floater, effective 12/23/20

Goodfellow, Emily, HSS, Special Education Assistant, effective 1/12/21

Orozco, Armando, WAS, Custodian, effective 12/18/20

Yung, Jessica, GMSS, Special Education Assistant, effective 1/15/21

Resignation Update Support Staff

Schwartz, Jill, GMSS, Custodian, effective 11/30/20

Termination Support Staff

Bury, Aleiza, GMSN, Special Education Assistant, effective 12/18/20

Retirements Support Staff

Decker, James, TRANS, Bus Driver, effective 1/31/21

Theard, Michael, WES, Custodian, effective 2/4/21

Family and Medical Leave Support Staff

Burkitt, Scott, TRANS, Bus Driver, effective 12/10/20-3/10/21

Corrigan, James, GHS, Custodian, 11/9/20-1/11/21

Willmann, Lark, TRANS, Bus Supervisor, effective 1/11/21-1/29/21

Bartolone, Onofrio, GMSS, Custodian, effective 12/20/20-intermittent

2. Accounts Payable (Policy 4:50)

3. Gifts, Grants, Bequests (Policy 8:80): \$314,000, Fabyan Foundation, for Scholarship Fund and Technology Improvements

Motion by Cabeen, second by Juby, to approve the above-listed, items 9.1-9.3. 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) *Per Board Policy 2:230, attendees wishing to formally address the Board during Public Comments must register their intention to participate in person by completing a **Public Comments Form** [at this link](#). Copies will also be made available and collected at the entrance.*

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

Thank you to Mr. Raak for inviting Board members into his classroom prior to the holidays. It was great to see how the classroom and learning environment is structured. Mr. Raak gave a few minutes at the end of the class and beginning of the next class to actually hear from students about their experiences this year. The students had a lot of opinions and questions. They talked about the adaptive pause structure and how they enjoyed getting to see people. They also talked about the hybrid plan and how it was difficult learning in two days. If we could have these students in the classroom five days a week, we would. We hope other teachers will follow this initiative and invite us into their classrooms.

12. NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

13. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:47 p.m., motion by McCormick, second by Choi and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED January 25, 2021
(Date)

_____ PRESIDENT

SECRETARY _____

_____ RECORDING SECRETARY