



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 25, 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: Dan & Kelsey Haavig, Keith & Stephanie Hine, Ashley White, Bob & Alina Brigham, Aimee Spring, Ron Fabbi, Linnea Mason, Erik Spychalski, Brenna Castagna, Emily Erickson, Joshua Tate, Jim Whitely, Jean Smith.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Policy 2:220)

1. Regular Session, January 11, 2021

Motion by McCormick, second by Choi, to approve the above-listed minutes, item 2.1. 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.*

Several parents shared their concerns with the District's decision to make Fridays for hybrid students remote. They stated that they needed to see the data that backs the district's decision, that parents should have been included in the decision, that maintaining consistency is critical, and that we need to find time for more synchronous learning. One parent shared that they appreciate the work of the district and that this is no reflection on the teachers, but kids need to be in school five days a week. Another parent shared that grade levels should be addressed separately, allowing for elementary students to return to five days of in-person learning. One parent shared a petition advocating for

having all students in school every weekday. Others shared that they moved to Geneva for the schools and because it is a great place to raise kids. These parents are urging the district to reconsider their decision to make Friday's remote for all hybrid students.

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 is a lot going on, but that there are two pieces of legislation waiting for the governor's signature that could possibly effect school districts, which are part of the education omnibus bill.

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

The Superintendent shared that there is a lot going on in the district. We are in the middle of staff evaluations. There have been regular meetings with the Kane County Health Department regarding vaccinations. Unfortunately, vaccinations are not coming in as quickly as we would like them to. It could be the second week of February before we get the vaccines. We will also be watching the weather closely this evening due to the forecasted winter storm advisory.

6. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATION

1. Policy Updates: Second 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

Motion by Juby second by Cabeen, to approve the above-listed policies, items 6.1.1-6.1.13. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0).

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

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

Dr. Andy Barrett shared that there were two draft calendars shared at the last Board meeting. One with winter break starting more before Christmas. The administration is recommending calendar B, which would give us a few more days in the first semester.

Motion by McCormick, second by Choi, to approve the above-listed school calendar, items 6.2. 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)

New Hires Certified Staff

Kaiser, Cassidy, GMSN/GMSS, Learning Behavior Specialist, 1.0FTE, effective 1/13/21

Long-Term Substitutes Certified Staff

Canalas, Cameron, GMSN, Language Arts, 1.0 FTE, effective 1/26/21-4/28/21

Retirement Certified Staff

Massoth, Mary, HES, Art, 1.0 FTE, effective 6/4/21

Nothnagel, Janet, GMSN, 1.0 FTE, effective 6/4/21

New Hires Support Staff

Henry, Anna, GHS, Special Education Assistant, effective 1/19/21

Lewis, Jessica, GHS, Special Education Assistant, effective 2/1/21

Stone-Vilim, Kimberly, WAS, Reading Tutor, effective 1/25/21

Stoner, Michael, TRAN, Bus Monitor, effective 1/25/21

Resignations Support Staff

Zaragoza Lopez, Jose, All Buildings, Custodian Floater, effective 1/15/21

Family and Medical Leave Support Staff

Enneking, Leann, GMSN, Special Education Assistant, effective 1/7/21-1/29/21

Leave of Absence Support Staff

Noonan, Annie, CO, Payroll, effective 1/5/21-4/5/21

2. Accounts Payable (Policy 4:50)

3. Monthly Financials – December (Policy 4:40, 4:55)

4. Disposition of Executive Session Minutes July 2020 through December 2020

5. Bid Summary: \$830,597, AMS Mechanical Systems, Inc., GMSS 2020-21 Boiler & Domestic Hot Water Storage Tank Replacement

Motion by Cabeen, second by Juby, to approve the above-listed, items 9.1-9.5. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

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

Board members attended the Geneva Middle School South, Harrison Street School, Heartland Elementary School and Western Avenue School PTO meetings. All were great meetings with great conversations. One Board member toured HSS where they were able to see the students actively involved in in-person learning with their teachers. The Facilities Task Force met today and discussed the fire panel at central office, which is outdated, as well as, the two heating units that are still working, but will need updating soon. There is much that goes into keeping our buildings running. One board member attended an IASB workshop that they thought was about testing assessments during COVID that turned out to actually be about testing for COVID in schools. The Board does not typically engage in conversation during the public comments portion of the meeting, but there are a few things that need to be addressed. The issue of low cases of COVID in our schools, is the direct result of the hard work of our nurses and contact tracers. They have, in some way, shape or form, been in contact with more than half of our student population. Regarding collaboration, when we make decisions, we are working with all our working groups (BOE, building leaders, teachers, support staff, nursing staff, administration). What we heard in the meetings with our working groups, was that synchronous learning on Friday's was going to be beneficial for our students on so many levels. It is important to work as a team and have buy in from all stakeholders. Look at districts that do not have team environments among staff, teachers, and administrators, and look at the problems they are experiencing. Many of them have not been able to work out a hybrid plan, which we have had all year. The BOE are elected officials that represent the community of Geneva. We do surveys, but do not send them out for every decision. If we did, we would never get anything done. It also came up that we are moving in the status quo or just trying to be as good as it can be, but that has never been the sentiment of any Board member. We have done an outstanding job at delivering the best educational opportunity for our students. The last item we would like to mention is volunteers. We

have volunteer opportunities in our district, but the ultimate volunteer opportunity is joining the Board of Education. We announced that there would be four seats open on the Board. The sign-up period came and went, and it is not a contested race. For those that think we need to have more volunteer opportunities, you had it. We are available anytime you would like to speak with one of us.

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)]; LITIGATION, WHEN AN ACTION AGAINST, AFFECTING, OR ON BEHALF OF THE PARTICULAR PUBLIC BODY FINDS THAT SUCH AN ACTION IS PROBABLE OR IMMINENT, IN WHICH CASE THE BASIS FOR THE FINDING SHALL BE RECORDED AND ENTERED INTO THE MINUTES OF THE CLOSED MEETING [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)]; THE PURCHASE OR LEASE OF REAL PROPERTY FOR THE USE OF THE PUBLIC BODY, INCLUDING MEETINGS HELD FOR THE PURPOSE OF DISCUSSING WHETHER A PARTICULAR PARCEL SHOULD BE ACQUIRED [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(5). [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)] (Policy 2:220)

At 8:15 p.m., motion by McCormick, second by Saxton, to go into executive session to consider matters pertaining to collective negotiating between the public body and its employees or their representatives; litigation, when an action against, affecting, or on behalf of the particular public body finds that such an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding shall be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting; the purchase or lease of real property for the use of the public body, including meetings held for the purpose of discussing whether a particular parcel should be acquired. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

At 9:23 p.m., the Board returned to open session.

14. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:24 p.m., motion by McCormick, second by Cabeen and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED February 8, 2021
(Date)

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY _____

RECORDING
SECRETARY