



**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, February 22, 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; 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: Stephanie Bellino, Martha Paschke, Heidi DeMarco, Alison Edington, Lani Mergen, Sarah Shkutov, Jean Smith, Phil Smith, Emily Erickson, Dayna Anderson, Mark Fellingner, Jim Coxworth, Ingo Weigold, Montgomery White, Erik Spsychalski, Lesly Vernald, Nicholas Vernald, Julieanne Zens, Alyssa Chudzick, Michelle Lata, Aimee Spring, Becky Smith, Liliana Daniell, Kate Coxworth, Ashlee White, Dan Callaghan, Matt Mason, Jason Neiman, Lani Mergen.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Policy 2:220)

1. Regular Session, February 8, 2021
2. Executive Session, February 8, 2021

Motion by Cabeen, second by Juby, to approve the above-listed minutes, items 2.1-2.2. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

3. 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 thoughts and concerns about returning to five days of in-person instruction. Some parents felt that the District has always had the safety of staff and students in mind, and that the current models should remain until the end of the school year. Others argued that students are struggling in the current models, and that their health and wellbeing are being

jeopardized. Many parents are asking for continued dialogue and Friday's reinstated for in-person learning, while others are asking that the District hold strong in their decisions.

4. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS

The Board President shared that one thing that has been mentioned in communication with the community members and at meetings, is that there have been many ongoing conversations and meetings happening between administrators, building leaders and staff focusing on the education of students. Today, there was a meeting that included all stakeholders within the district (GEA, GSSA, nursing staff, building leaders, administrators, and the Board). There was discussion, as we have stated, around our goal to get back to in-person learning. There are seven, not three as mentioned, Board members who are pro in-person learning. The result of this meeting is that we will let the public into the next meeting virtually with an option for questions and comments to be submitted prior to the meeting. It is important for the community to see what the discussions look like around possibilities, options, and goals. This meeting will be either March 3rd or 4th.

The Superintendent shared that the district is constantly planning, and the group thought it would be good to take some of that planning forward publicly. This is not a simplistic issue for us. It is a very complex and complicated issue. We did recently hear from the CDC on their most recent guidelines, and now we are waiting on the Illinois Department of Public Health to support or not support some of those guidelines. It then comes down to the Kane County Health Department, with whom we meet frequently.

5. 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."

Board member, Leslie Juby, shared that the governor gave his budget address, but otherwise there is not much to report.

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

The Superintendent shared that we have many of the same things going on this time of year as we typically do. We are working to complete staff evaluations this week. We are also continuing our work on the budget. The Board continues to participate in professional development with the upcoming IASB Kishwaukee Division meeting. There is much appreciation for this Board with all their involvement that goes beyond just the regular Board meetings.

7. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATION

1. 2021-2022 Board Meeting Calendar

Motion by McCormick, second by Cabeen, to approve the above-listed calendar, item 7.1. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

8. WORK-STUDY TOPICS & FUTURE ACTION CONSIDERATION

1. 2021-2022 Textbook and Resource Adoptions

Dr. Andy Barrett shared the list of textbook and primary resources that are being recommended for adoption for the 2021-2022 school year, which include Advanced Placement Government, Advanced Placement Physics C, Sociology of Sports, and English 1 Honors. These resources will be on public display at the district office as required by School Board Policy and the Illinois School Code. They will be brought back to the Board for formal approval at a future meeting.

9. INFORMATION

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

10. 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

Trofimuk, Megan, FES, Learning Behavior Specialist, effective 5/11/21-6/4/21

Weber, Jacqueline, GHS, Social Worker, effective 3/4/21-6/4/21

Francis, Caty, MCS, Grade 1, effective 5/4/21-6/4/21

Leave of Absence Certified Staff

Grady, Sean, GHS, Physical Education, effective 4/16/21-4/23/21

Full Year Leave of Absence Certified Staff – returning 2021-2022

Klos, Julia, GMSN, Language Arts, 1.0 FTE

Resignations Certified Staff

Jones, Duane, GMSS, Technology, 1.0 FTE, effective 3/12/21

Wallace, Erin, WES, Grade 4, 1.0 FTE, effective 6/4/21

Resignations Support Staff

Hopper, Kelly, GMSN, Special Education Assistant, effective 2/19/21

Retirement Support Staff

Schwer, Lisa, GHS, Administrative Assistant, effective 6/4/21

2. Accounts Payable (Policy 4:50)

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

4. 2021-2022 Finance Committee Calendar

5. Gifts, Grants, Bequests: \$10,254.85, Geneva Music Boosters, for music programs at all buildings

6. Request to Purchase: \$714,144.35, Insight Public Sector (\$518,310) & Paragon Development Systems (\$195,834.35), for 1,585 student devices and warranties/ADP's

7. Request to Purchase: \$274,463.75, Chicago Office Technology Group, for 275 staff devices

Motion by Cabeen, second by Juby, to approve the above-listed, items 10.1-10.5. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Cabeen, Choi, Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

Motion by McCormick, second by Juby, to approve the above-listed, items 10.6-10.7, pending finalized delivery of warranty agreement and any further open specifics. 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 Technology Task Force meeting last week. Thanks to Mike Wilkes and his team for the work on the tech proposals listed on the consent agenda tonight. The best option on paper was not the best option, and Mike has always explained things well. A candidate's forum was held with Dr. Mutchler that was informative. The community being able to participate in the upcoming meeting of all district stakeholders is good news. Thank you to the Music Boosters for the generous donation. The Facility Task Force met today, and I am impressed with the work of the administration to get things done and be fiscally responsible. We have a lot of expenses coming up in the next seven years. We have some older buildings, and it takes a lot to keep them running. I appreciate the parents that spoke for both sides tonight. There has not been a day that I have not thought about your kids. The upcoming meeting will be good as we involve parents in what is discussed and give them an option to ask questions. We are all on the same side. A lot was spoken on how parents can help. We do need to widen our scope. Board members also attended the COVID Task Force meeting. There was a lot of discussion about the CDC's new recommendations. Over the last few weeks, I have had multiple conversations with community members, and I would like to say thank you for reaching out. Some of those conversations were positive and affirming, and others were difficult and uncomfortable. Please do not assume we are doing nothing just because you are not getting the results you want. In my eight years on the Board, not once have I felt like I was not working on behalf of our community. I am part of the group that meets with district stakeholders to discuss future plans of the district. The plan is to get back to school five days, but how we do that is more difficult.

12. **NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS**

13. **EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER MATTERS PERTAINING TO COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC BODY AND ITS EMPLOYEES OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES, OR DELIBERATIONS CONCERNING THE SALARY SCHEDULES FOR ONE OR MORE CLASSES OF EMPLOYEES [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)]. [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)] (Policy 2:220)**

At 8:53 p.m., motion by Juby, 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, or deliberations concerning the salary schedules for one or more classes of employees; litigation, when an action against, affecting, or on behalf of the particular public body has been filed and is pending before a court or administrative tribunal, or when the public body finds that such an action is probable or imminent, in which case the basis for the finding must be recorded and entered into the minutes of the closed meeting.

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

14. **ADJOURNMENT**

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

APPROVED March 8, 2021
(Date)

_____ PRESIDENT

SECRETARY _____

_____ RECORDING SECRETARY