



**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, September 27, 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 7:00 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: Laura Sprague, Communications Coordinator; Shonette Sims, Director for Learning & Teaching; Dr. Andy Barrett, Assistant Superintendent Learning & Teaching; Dr. Adam Law, Assistant Superintendent Personnel Services; Dr. Kent Mutchler, Superintendent.

Others present: Jean Smith, Brenda Schory, Lauren Solner, Brad Raschke.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Policy 232:220)

1. Regular Session, September 13, 2021

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

2. Executive Session, September 13, 2021

Motion by McCormick, second by Saxton, to approve the above-listed minutes, item 2.2. On roll call, Ayes, six (6), Choi, Forbes, McCormick, Meek, Saxton, Egan. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, one (1), Cabeen.

3. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Support of Learning through ESSR

Director of Learning & Teaching Shonette Sims presented to the Board an update on funds received through the ESSER grants and how those funds have been used. The ESSER I funds were divided into three categories: PPE/Sanitation, \$157,000; Digital Divide, \$118,000; and Learning, \$57,000. ESSER II funds were also broken down into three categories: Sanitation, \$50,000; Digital Divide, \$85,000; and Learning, \$1,045,305. ESSER III funds were allocated in July 2021. The district received \$2,650,000, which is to be spent between March 13, 2020, to September 30, 2024. These funds are for emergency relief to address the impact that Novel Coronavirus Disease 2019 has had and continues to have. Funds for ESSER III have been divided into four categories: Personnel, \$1,080,000; Learning, \$1,236,000; PPE, \$200,500; and Sanitation, \$140,000. ESSER III funds will help to address learning loss among students by focusing on administering and using high-quality

assessments, implementing evidence-based activities, providing information and assistance to parents and families, and tracking student attendance and student engagement in distance learning. We will offer extended learning opportunities at all levels and continue this over the next couple of summers.

Ms. Sims also shared information about the G.R.O.W. Program. There have been three staff members who have been working on this additional licensure and will spearhead this as we go forward. The goal of this program is that the students will be gaining additional support, the program will reach to identify students, there will opportunities for growth and attainment of literacy and/or math skills, and there will be a weekly extension of core curriculum. At the elementary level, we will be offering an hour a week of literacy or math for 1st thru 5th graders. At the middle school level, we will be offering math or reading to 6th thru 8th graders. We will reach these students by identification, progress monitoring, and program evaluation. This program is acceleration, not remediation.

Board comments, questions, concerns: If the student is found to need acceleration, is that up to the parent? (No, the school will identify the student and the parent can choose to accept or decline.) Will this be offered at every school? (Yes.) For PPE, you talked about a stand-alone air purifier, can you talk more about the guidelines we have had to meet, and have met for ventilation? (The purifier can set how much turnover of cool, fresh air coming into the building. We have adjusted all our HVAC systems so that we can now surpass the air exchange in a building. We are also looking at purifiers that can sanitize a space within 30 minutes)

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."

The Superintendent shared that our goal has been to have students in-person as much as possible. The governor passed an executive order which required all school staff to either be vaccinated or to obtain weekly testing. We are thankful that our staff is compliant. We also continue to update our dashboard and you can see that transmissions and positivity rates in our district and county have been declining. If this continues, we hope that we will be able to remove some of the layers of mitigation.

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

The Superintendent shared that there are a couple of celebrations to share. Board members Mike McCormick and Taylor Egan are being honored by the Illinois Association of School Boards (IASB) as Master Board Members. We also found out that Mike McCormick, because he completed the application for the Boardsmanship Award, has been invited by IASB to their round table and governance recognition. We had our first Joint PTO meeting last week with a presentation on transgender topics to help our students feel safe at school. Thank you to all Board members for attending a recent PTO meeting at Fabyan Elementary to answer parent questions. There have been data meetings, and at the elementary level they were looking at MAP scores and Fountas & Pinnell for reading, and those are indicators of very little learning gap due to how we have dealt with COVID. We also have parent/teacher conferences coming up, which will be blended depending on the level. Principals will share more information on the upcoming conferences. This is homecoming week, and we have something happening every night. Tonight, is powder puff football. We had an exciting football game at St. Charles North on Friday night. Our football team is doing well, as are our dance and cheerleading teams.

6. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATION

1. Action on Depositories, Investment Manager, Dealers & Brokers (Policy 4:30)
We are asking that the Board approve the same depositories as last year.

Motion by Cabeen, second by McCormick, to approve the above-listed, 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. Out-of-Country Spain Trip Proposal Summer 2023

This trip is being brought to you from Lynn Ford who is a teacher at the high school. It is an educational trip to Spain and the administration is supporting this.

Motion by Cabeen, second by Forbes, to approve the above-listed, 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).

7. WORK-STUDY TOPICS & FUTURE ACTION CONSIDERATION

8. INFORMATION

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

9. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Long-Term Substitutes Certified Staff

Jensen, Jill, FES, Grade 5, 1.0 FTE, effective 12/13/21-4/1/22

New Hires Support Staff

Boan, Scott, All Buildings, On-Call Grounds, effective 9/20/21

Brock, Michael, All Buildings, Grounds, effective 9/20/21

Egizio, Jeanne, HSS, Reading Tutor, effective 9/27/21

Kehrein, Jessica, All Buildings, On-Call Custodian, effective 9/16/21

Lee, Kimberly, CO, Administrative Assistant, effective 10/18/21

Ranieri, Donna, WES, Reading Tutor, effective 9/20/21

Ruiz, Isidrio, All Buildings, Grounds, effective 9/23/21

Steuart, Jennifer, HSS, Reading Tutor, effective 9/27/21

Worthel, Shirley, TRAN, Bus Monitor Sub, effective 9/15/21

Resignations Support Staff

Scott, Randall, TRAN, Bus Driver, effective 8/9/21

Ahuatl, Fermin, All Buildings, Custodian, effective 7/30/21

Cabrera, Michael, GHS, Security, effective 10/7/21

Reclassification Support Staff

Schade, Robert, TRAN, Bus Monitor to Bus Driver, effective 9/17/21

FMLA Support Staff

Bauer, Margarita, GHS, Special Education Assistant, effective 9/7/21-intermittent

Leave of Absence Support Staff

Johnson, Michael, GMSN, Custodian, effective 8/9/21-8/20/21

Johnson, Michael, GMSN, Custodian, effective 8/31/21-9/17/21

2. Monthly Financial Report – August (Policy 4:50)

3. Gifts, Grants, Bequests: \$1,254.24, FES PTO, for outdoor education and sketch boards (Policy 8:80)

4. Gifts, Grants, Bequests: \$1,500, Elburn Markets, for GHS athletics (Policy 8:80)

5. 403(B) Plan Hardship Distributions Amendment

Motion by McCormick, second by Meek, to approve the above-listed, items 9.1-9.5. 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.*

Parents came before the Board to share their concerns and to ask for the Boards support. One parent is asking that the district allow parents and caretakers back into the schools for things like holiday parties and grandparents day. Another parent asked that the Board look at the statistics they

presented to them at the last meeting and to consider removing masks from the classrooms.

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 Fabyan Elementary PTO meeting last week to answer any parent questions. Unfortunately, the meeting was held remotely. The Communications Task Force met recently, and Laura Sprague shared some tasks for the school year. Board members encourage everyone to visit downtown Geneva and look at the wonderful windows that have been decorated by students for homecoming. The Joint PTO met last week where an insightful presentation was given on transgender topics. It is great to see the spirit in the community, and hopefully we are getting closer to an end with the pandemic. Fifth graders attended Outdoor Ed last week, and although they did not have a sleepover, they were still able to participate in many activities. Board members participated in the VEI interviews that are held annually at the high school. This is a highlight each year, and we thank Jamie Dunlap for inviting us. Board members have spent time recently talking with community members and answering questions they might have.

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 FOR ONE OR MORE CLASSES OF EMPLOYEES [5ILCS 120/2(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)]; APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, OR DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS WHO SERVE AS INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS IN A PARK, RECREATIONAL, OR EDUCATIONAL SETTING, OR SPECIFIC VOLUNTEERS OF THE PUBLIC BODY OR LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC BODY, INCLUDING HEARING TESTIMONY ON A COMPLAINT LODGED AGAINST AN EMPLOYEE, A SPECIFIC INDIVIDUAL WHO SERVES AS AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR IN A PARK, RECREATIONAL, OR EDUCATIONAL SETTING, OR A VOLUNTEER OF THE PUBLIC BODY OR AGAINST LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC BODY TO DETERMINE ITS VALIDITY. HOWEVER, A MEETING TO CONSIDER AN INCREASE IN COMPENSATION TO A SPECIFIC EMPLOYEE THAT IS SUBJECT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT WAGE INCREASE TRANSPARENCY ACT MAY NOT BE CLOSED AND MUST BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC. [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1). [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)] (Policy 2:220)

At 7:51 p.m., motion by McCormick, second by Cabeen, to go into 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 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; appointment, employment, compensation, or discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee that is subject to the local government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and must be open to the public body; collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning the salary for one or more classes of employees; collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives, or deliberations concerning the salary for one or more classes of employees.

At 8:48 p.m., the Board returned to open session.

14. POSSIBLE ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

1. Memorandum of Understanding
No action was taken.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:49 p.m., motion by McCormick, second by Cabeen and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED October 12, 2021 _____ PRESIDENT
(Date)

SECRETARY _____ RECORDING
SECRETARY