



**GENEVA COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 304  
227 NORTH FOURTH STREET, GENEVA, KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS  
POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES**

The Board of Education Policy Committee met at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, January 22, 2024, at Coultrap Educational Services Center, 227 North Fourth Street, Geneva, Illinois.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:30 p.m. by Committee Chair Bellino.

Committee members present: Molly Ansari, Stephanie Bellino. Absent: Willard C. Hooks Jr.

District staff present: Dr. Andy Barrett, Superintendent; Shonette Sims, Assistant Superintendent Learning & Teaching.

Others present: Larry Cabeen, Jackie Forbes, Paul Radlinski.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENT (Policy 2:230)**

None.

**3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Policy 2:220)**

1. November 11, 2023

Motion by Ansari, second by Bellino, to approve the minutes as presented. Ayes, two (2), Ansari, Bellino. Nays, none (0). Absent, one (1), Hooks. Abstained, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

**4. DISCUSSION / POSSIBLE FUTURE CONSIDERATION**

1. Policy 6:135, Accelerated Placement Program

Shonette Sims shared that this policy was updated in May of 2023 and reflects changes in the Illinois School Code regarding Automatic Accelerated Placement. This law gives the opportunity for student placement in “the next most rigorous course” based on state-administered test scores. The intent of this law is to ensure that all students have the opportunity to enroll in rigorous and high-quality course work and to reduce barriers to enrollment in these courses. A student’s most recent state assessment results would be used to determine whether a student meets or exceeds state standards. The key change is the automatic enrollment into the next most rigorous level of advanced course work. The logistical flaws are lack of clarity regarding “next most rigorous,” misalignment with high school course structures and offerings, misalignment between assessment dates and course selection timelines, focus on hard numbers, exclusion of professional expertise, and lack of consideration for balance of student strengths, weaknesses, and areas of interest. In Geneva we are expanding access, auto-populating in the teacher portal based on test scores, communicating with families through the course catalog, course selection process, and Home Access Center, and engaging with teachers and counselors. During the course selection process, parents will determine what courses the student will take based on course recommendations, recent performance in prerequisite courses, alignment with career goals, interest in subject matter, extracurricular activities, and test scores. Although this mandate will not be fully implemented until next year, they are already recommending a change. They are proposing using “may” instead of “shall” and instead of “meets or exceeds” it would just be “exceeds.”

Comments, questions, concerns: Since ninth graders have not taken the assessment would we go off their eighth-grade scores? (Yes.) Do we feel with the removal of prerequisites that it might hurt our students? (No, this cannot take away prerequisites.) The auto population in the teacher portal is helpful. Would parents have access to the first page or just the teacher recommendations? (Just the teacher recommendations.)

**5. INFORMATION**

**6. OUTSTANDING POLICY CLEANUP & REVIEW \***

**7. ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:56 p.m., on a motion by Ansari, a second by Bellino, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED	<u>April 22, 2024</u> Date	_____	CHAIRPERSON
		Stephanie Bellino	
SECRETARY	_____	_____	RECORDING SECRETARY
	Dr. Andy Barrett	Bonnie J. Johnson	