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Educate and prepare students with the **KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS,** and **PERSONAL QUALITIES** to be productive citizens.



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

The Board of Education Finance Committee met at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, January 13, 2025, at Coultrap Educational Services Center, 227 North Fourth Street, Geneva, Illinois.

1. **CALL TO ORDER (Policy 2:220)**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Jackie Forbes.

Committee members present: Dan Choi, Jackie Forbes, Paul Radlinski.

Staff present: Mike Wilkes, Director of Technology; Todd Latham, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services; Dr. Andy Barrett, Superintendent.

Others present: Stephanie Bellino, Willard Hooks, Larry Cabeen, Scott Duenser.

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

None.

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

1. October 28, 2024

Motion by Forbes, second by Choi, to approve item, 3.1 as presented. Ayes, two (2), Choi, Forbes. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, one (1), Radlinski. Motion carried unanimously.

4. **DISCUSSION/CONSIDERATION**

1. FY2023-2024 Annual Financial Report (Policy 4:10)

Todd Latham gave an update on the FY2023-24 Annual Financial Report (AFR). The AFR is required by the Illinois State Board of Education and must be prepared by an external audit firm. The report contains basic district information and accounting basis, financial profile and score, basic financial statements, supplemental schedules, administrative costs, and opinions and letters. Mr. Latham shared information that showed an increase in both expenditure and revenues over the last five years. The summary shows that we have less revenue than expenses, which was due to accumulated activity funds from 2022-23 that were spent down in 2023-24. The long-term debt has gone down from \$95,556,164 to \$85,790,000. Our goal would be to achieve a 4.90 recognition.

Comments, questions, concerns: Do we have any indication of how we compare to surrounding districts? (No, we do not.) Do we look at surrounding districts for comparisons? (For certain parts.) Is what we are looking for a positive response from the auditors? (Yes.) Can you explain support services again? (This would be anyone that is not a teacher, such as social workers, support staff and custodial staff.) So, the increase is the need for more of those services? (Yes.) It would be nice to see the cost per student compared to surrounding districts. (We could pull this information from the Illinois School Report Card.)

2. FY2025-2026 Preliminary Technology Capital Plan (Policy 4:10)

Mike Wilkes presented the FY2025-26 Preliminary Technology Capital Plan. He shared that they are currently working on an upgrade to the Student Information System (SIS). There are forty staff members involved in this process. If the upgrade is approved, it would be implemented in the 2026-27 school year. Future planning for 2026 includes wireless access points for grades 6-12, structured cabling (3 of 3), and firewall replacement. The 2025-26 capital plan includes staff and student devices, projector upgrades, school-identified needs, SIS, cybersecurity pilot/enhancements, and digitization of student records that would come from the education fund. It would also include wireless access point replacements, firewall replacement, structured cabling installation, and wireless license renewal that would come from the Operations & Maintenance fund. The estimated total is \$2,230,852. There are potential offsets totaling \$481,000, which could bring the estimated total to \$1,748,979. Mr. Wilkes also shared budget projections from last year and this year.

Comments, questions, concerns: Your forecast shows a decline. Do you believe this? (Yes.) Are the offset dollars some of the e-rate and grant dollars? (For O&M, that offset is all e-rate. The Ed Fund is a combination of grant funds and fees.) If the cybersecurity pilot does not work out, are we not going to embark on that? (At this point, we have dollars in accounting for a project that we would like to move forward with regardless of whether the pilot comes through.) Is the SIS program rollout supported by the company that we are buying it from? (Between in-house talent that we have and the vendor we will be able to role this out.) What business system are we using currently, and why the change? (We are using eSchool, which has been in place for about twenty years with no program improvements over the years.) Does the vendor still support the current program? (Yes, through 2030.)

5. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

1. Investments
2. Long-Term Debt
3. Capital Projects Review
4. FY2024-2025 Six Month Review

6. ITEMS FOR RECOMMENDATION TO FULL BOARD (Policy 2:150)

1. FY2025-26 Preliminary Technology Capital Plan (Policy 4:10)
Motion by Radlinski, second by Choi, to move item, 6.1 forward to the full board as presented. Ayes, three (3), Choi, Forbes, Radlinski. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

7. INFORMATION

1. Legislative Update

8. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:02 p.m., motion by Choi, second by Radlinski, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED February 10, 2025
Date

Jackie Forbes CHAIRPERSON

SECRETARY Dr. Andy Barrett

Bonnie J. Johnson RECORDING SECRETARY