

**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, April 27, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. at Williamsburg Elementary School, 1812 Williamsburg Avenue, Geneva, Illinois

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1 Roll Call
- 1.2 Welcome
- 1.3 Pledge
- 1.4 Reminder to sign attendance sheet

The meeting was called to order at 7:02 p.m. by President Grosso.

Board members present: Leslie Juby, David Lamb, Mike McCormick, Vice President Kelly Nowak, Policy Committee Chair Mary Stith, Finance Committee Chair Bill Wilson, President Mark Grosso. Late: None. Absent: None.

The President welcomed everyone, reminded them to sign the attendance record, and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

District staff present: Kristy Poteete-Kriegermeier, Communications Coordinator; Tom Rogers, Principal Geneva High School; Elizabeth Janowiak, Director of Technology; Kathy Jankovic, GHS; Mary Jane Johnson, GHS; Adam Law, Principal HES; Craig Collins, Assistant Superintendent Personnel Services; Donna Oberg, Assistant Superintendent Business Services; Patty O'Neil, Assistant Superintendent Learning & Teaching; and Dr. Kent Mutchler, Superintendent.

Others present: Louise Grissinger, Lisa & Steve Creger, John Zupke, Brenda Schory, Sara Finch, Allison Dudman, Kayley Gerbec, Ryan Hansen, Alexis Kliros, Joseph Locasha, Amie Randall.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Per Board Policy 0167.3, Section C, Attendees wishing to speak at the Board meeting must register their intention to participate in the public portion(s) of the meeting upon their arrival at the meeting. Complete the form found 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.

Louise Grissinger from the GHS art department personally invited all Board members to attend the student art exhibition on May 15th from 4 to 8 pm at the GHS Viking Commons. The students have been working all year on their projects. The National Art Honor Society will also be presenting "Visionwalls" featuring student artists' interactive art; creating paintings, drawings, ceramics and more while you watch. This art will be for sale during the silent auction. There will also be live music from our music students. It's a great evening, and we hope that all of you will be able to attend.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 3.1 Regular Session, April 13, 2015
- 3.2 Executive Session, April 13, 2015

Motion by Nowak, second by McCormick, to approve the above-listed minutes, items 3.1 & 3.2 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

4. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS

- 4.1 Tradition of Excellence Award: Geneva High School Students
Geneva High School Principal Tom Rogers presented students in recognition of their accomplishments. Students recognized included:

WYSE (Worldwide Youth in Science & Engineering – State Qualifiers

Stephen Creger
Rachael Valiunas
John Zupke

SkillsUSA – State Qualifiers

Matthew Cozart – Culinary Arts	Ryan Hansen – Food & Beverage Services
Allison Dudman – Culinary Arts	Alexis Kliros – Early Childhood Education
Zachary Gauntt – Culinary Arts, Pastry & Baking	Joseph Locasha – Culinary Arts
Kayley Gerbec – Pastry & Baking	Amie Randall – Pastry & Baking

4.2 Update on Technology Plan with Emphasis on HS Portion

The Superintendent reported that he appreciates the conversations that the Board has had and for looking at these plans in the long term. It's based on recommendations and things we think we can accomplish, and then pared down over time. The Board and Finance Committee has brought forward helpful options. At the high school, they are planning to use one-to-one machines in learning teams that would work as an extension of the Collaborative Teacher Project. This project began about three years ago as eStart and involves teaching cohorts working collaboratively and innovatively..

Principal Rogers presented an overview of the high school plan that is embedded in the larger proposal. The high school currently has ten teachers participating in the CTP using computers in their classrooms. These computers do not go home with students. He believes it is time to start adding the 1:1 options at the high school. The high school is proposing for next year a cohort of 1:1 teachers and students at three grade levels. The classes that have been identified for this proposal are:

Freshman

English I
Modern World History
Earth Science

Sophomores

English II
Chemistry
Spanish III

Juniors

English III
US History
Algebra II

Based on conversations and work that has been done, the idea is to select a teacher in each of these courses and schedule students into these classes. The students enrolled in these courses would then have a device to take with them to each of these classes. We have chosen a variety of courses so that there are teachers from a variety of departments to experience this. The goal that we have in mind is that these teachers will learn throughout the year from each other, through professional development, and from their students. We want this learning to spread throughout their departments so that over time we can add more cohort groups. There has been a mixed reaction on rolling out a program like this in an entire school or grade level.

The Superintendent reported that this program is right in line with the direction the District has been heading in technology. When we talk about the 5th grade 1:1 project, it's always less about the 1:1 technology, and more about innovative teaching and learning. We have instructional coaches working with teachers on innovative instruction.

Board comments, questions, discussion: As a freshman, when I enter school I would register and have the same three classes as thirty other students? (Possibly) Are we looking at one cohort or more? (We are not sure how this is going to play out yet. We would like more, but the master schedule is difficult to work out sometimes. We will aim for more than thirty, but will do more if possible.) This number of 360 portable devices might go down? (It could go down, but we have estimated that number based on some work we did at the beginning of the second semester. We wanted to find out, in looking at the current schedule with students, if we could get cohorts that will move throughout the day with each other. We think we can achieve the number we have proposed.) The 360 devices are for the cohorts, is that under the computer science lab equipment? (This is correct.) Can you give a ballpark of how many devices for PLTW? (Thirty (30).) We had talked

about leasing computers to get a little experience to see if it pays off and works with issues involved. We suggested at the last meeting was to start with PLTW and to have Elizabeth Janowiak report back with a cost proposal.

Elizabeth Janowiak reported her findings for leasing computers at the high school for PLTW. The quote from HP came in at \$1,117 for each computer. This doesn't mean we need to purchase HP products. It is a bit expensive, but it is a very powerful computer. We did not include monitors as we have monitors in the district that can be used. The total cost to purchase these computers would be \$33,510, and if we lease it would be \$10,075 per year over the course of three years with a total of \$30,225. This would give us a savings of \$3,285 and would spread the cost over three years. If we were to lease these thirty computers, the new total for the 2015-2016 Technology Plan would be \$973,565, down from the original \$997,000, which would give us a \$23,435 variance in the first year of the plan. We would still have years two and three of this lease to include in 2016-2017 and 2017-2018. The \$35,000 from the high school that was included for PLTW includes the thirty computers plus a laptop for the teacher which would cost about \$2,000. This laptop was not included in the lease, because a high end laptop would most likely last four years. Dr. Mutchler indicated that this is a reminder that in the last version of the plan we were able to reduce the proposal by over \$300,000 which was a substantial decrease. This is the plan that we are bringing forward, and the other option that we ask you to consider is whether we should lease the 6th grade level laptops or purchase them. We would certainly lease if that is the direction you would like us to take, otherwise the proposal is to purchase.

Board comments, questions, discussion: The Board President asked for each Board member to give their thoughts on this proposal. Dave would defer to the professionals for leasing versus purchasing. As a Board, we did a great job of asking questions. The value of buying and having additional years is a great option. Commend the District on finding creative ways to bringing 1:1 to additional grades by repurposing devices. He is in favor of the proposal. Leslie likes the idea of purchasing everything, but understands the need to be flexible. Mary likes the advantages to purchasing, but there is merit to just leasing the computers for PLTW. She is skeptical for high end science, even though we are buying computers that will last four years. Kelly is comfortable with leasing for PLTW, but went back and forth with the 1:1 devices that would be going home. She would like to see what our experience is in getting devices back and what kind of shape they are in. If we want to expand this, then we need to do more research and make sure we are laddering so that not all devices have to be replaced at the same time. Bill agrees that leasing is a good opportunity for PLTW to see if this is the direction we would want to go with additional devices in the future. We will also know in three years if the devices we purchase are still able to be repurposed. We need to study this over time to see how devices hold up and what value they have. He is good with the initial approach. Mike was on board for leasing but after conversations about the high end computers felt that they may not be good to lease for science or the heavier programming. He would hope that for \$1,000 per device, they would still have use after three years. The savings on the lease isn't that great. (The use of actual desk tops is reducing each year. We are not replacing as many desk tops as we have in the past. We may not need those high end computers to go into students' hands. We might, however, be able to put them at a desk in three years in our team centers. We are trending toward more portables. Leasing the thirty devices would give us an opportunity to see what leasing is all about on a small scale.) Mark thanked Bill for suggesting the lease option for PLTW at our last meeting. He does agree with the proposal of purchasing all equipment with the exception of the thirty devices for PLTW, which would be leased.

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent reported there is a lot going on as the end of the year gets closer. Last week, there was a Board reorganization with Valees, and he was re-elected as the Chair. We also had a retreat with the Mid-Valley Special Ed Coop where we were setting goals for next year. This week, we will have the second round of PARCC testing that begins tomorrow, and we have the ROE Educator of the Year Banquet on Friday. This is a big celebration of educators in the area. On Saturday, we have Prom. Next Tuesday there will be a special Board meeting to focus on reorganization of the Board based on the official election results, which will begin at 6 p.m. here at

Williamsburg Elementary. After the art show at the high school on May 15th you can attend the Board Retreat at Coultrap Educational Services Center, as well as on the 16th.

6. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATION

6.1 Annual Resolution for Dismissal: Non-Certified Staff

The Assistant Superintendent of Personnel reported that this is an annual event to give notice to release staff that started after the first of the year. Some of these staff will be brought back and some won't.

Motion by Nowak, second by Wilson, to approve the Annual Resolution for Dismissal, item 6.1 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

6.2 2015-2016 Staffing Plan

The Assistant Superintendent of Personnel reported that this was presented at the last Board meeting, and that the Board was asked to consider some changes for next year.

Board comments, questions, discussion: Are these all new positions? (Yes.) Does the cost include benefits? (Yes.) Looking back over the staffing plans for the last several years we've added roughly 15-16 positions for different reasons. We get questions from the some people regarding our staffing level with a slightly declining enrollment and the rationale. Can you give us your thoughts on this? (Over the last several years, we have added some positions with the exception of the teaching positions for ELL and bilingual, most of the positions have been non-student related or related to new laws enacted by the State and Federal governments. Examples are that five years ago the new teacher evaluation did not exist, five years ago new talents had not happened, and five years ago the expectation of the school district to meet the social and emotional needs of students was not as predominant as it is now. Most, if not all of the positions that we have added have been in response to the new laws, community expectations and new courses. We have also added new staff at the pre-school level; mainly because this is an area where we feel we have been under staffed. We are also adding a guidance counselor, psychologist and social workers. Compared to our neighbors, our staffing levels are not high, but more like right in the middle. We have also had to add to our technology department based on the need from expanded technology in our district. We've been very conservative over the years, but we are trying to be responsive to students and parents.) Against the backdrop of community finances, how do we pay for this? (These additions have not been added to the budget yet, but we have found some efficiency's in other areas, there is Federal reimbursement for some, and we are working on offsets for others.) Being part of the Finance Committee, it seems as though the trend, as opposed to just a tradeoff, is holding back on our operating costs to fund the appropriate needs of our students. Will this continue to be the case? (We will always look for efficiency's wherever we can find them. Some of these positions are being funded by Federal partial reimbursement.) As always, there is a need to be more aggressive in the social and emotional needs of our students. It feels good to know that our administration has been collaborative. We have different committees with Board members involved in discussions in all areas. I think we are taking the middle of the road approach, but I do support this plan. It would be nice if we could get feedback at the end of the year to see if the changes we approve make a difference, and if we need to make any changes for the following year. It would be nice if there was a correlation between the cost and the number of students. We did have an opportunity to view a realistic needs assessment of what needs to happen in our district to keep us on a good trajectory, which was created with the best interest of the students in mind. One thing we hear over and over again is the growth in student population. Some of the needs we are addressing today are growing cohorts. We bounce ideas around all the time, and the work with the Superintendent and staff has paid dividends in getting things down to the needs rather than wants. We have significantly more students with social emotional needs, with mental health challenges and other challenges that we need to address. Taking care of these issues when they first come up will save significant dollars over what it will cost us to educate these students and deal with the issues they have if we wait. We've been fortunate over the years to operate effectively in the two departments at the high school with one person taking that lead. This plan has been well thought out. Thank you to Mr. Collins for all the behind the scenes

work on this staffing plan. There are a couple of things that this memo does not address, but this is a good balance. Thank you to Mrs. Oberg for looking for offsets to cover the costs of these salaries.

Motion by Lamb, second by Juby, to approve the 2015-2016 Staffing Plan, item 6.2 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

6.3 2015-2016 Technology Plan

Motion by Nowak, second by Wilson, to approve the 2015-2016 Technology Plan, item 6.3 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

6.4 2015-2016 Student Fees

The Assistant Superintendent of Business Services reported that the proposal is to increase student fees by \$20 across all grade levels to support the rising cost of technology. This increase would generate additional revenue of \$114,000.

Motion by Nowak, second by Lamb, to approve the 2015-2016 Staffing Plan, item 6.4 as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

7. WORK-STUDY TOPICS & FUTURE ACTION CONSIDERATIONS

None.

8. INFORMATION

None.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

9.1 Monthly Financial Reports and Interfund Transfers

Motion by Nowak, second by Wilson, to approve Consent Agenda Item 9.1. On roll call, Ayes, six (6), Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, one (1), Juby.

9.2 Personnel Report: Resignations, Retirements, Leave Requests, Changes in Assignment/FTE, New Hires

New Hires Certified

Gorski, Samantha, GMSS, Psychologist, 1.0 FTE, effective 8/17/15

Mack, Briana, GMSS, Family & Consumer Science, 1.0 FTE, effective 8/17/15

Long-Term Substitutes Certified

Zimmerman, Kristin, WES, Grade 3, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/1/15-6/2/15

Sweet, Debra, HES, Grade 3, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/4/15-5/29/15

New Hires Support Staff

Cook, Kerry, GMSS, 2nd Shift Custodian, 12 month, effective 4/20/15

New Hires Administrators

Hornberg, Kimberly, HES, Principal, 1.0 FTE, effective 7/1/15

Reclassifications Administrators

Westerhoff, Brenna, from Student Assistance Coordinator at HSS to Principal at HSS, effective 7/1/15

9.3 Proposal Request:

9.4 2015-2016 IHSA Membership Renewal

Motion by Wilson, second by McCormick, to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.2 – 9.4. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION

None.

11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Policy Committee, Finance Committee, Boundary Task Force, Communications Task Force, Facilities 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, REMS Grant Advisory Board

Mike reported that he attended the Facilities Task Force meeting where there was discussion regarding traffic and students at Mill Creek. Kelly thanked and congratulated the culinary students that were here this evening. They will be providing the food for the PRIDE event that is coming up in a couple of weeks. If anyone would like to volunteer for this event please let us know. The Music Boosters are about to officially close out their fundraiser for band uniforms. They have put plans in place to continue that process so it will be an ongoing budget item for future uniform purchases. GEARS met for the last time this year and have scheduled a college admissions night for the fall. Information on this event will be coming out soon. She also thanked all of the volunteers that will be helping with the post prom this year. Mary reported that she worked as a volunteer at the Fermilab event for the STEM program. It was a wonderful event. York H.S. had huge attendance at this event because they offered extra credit. This weekend, she will be in Springfield for the quarterly Board of Directors IASB meeting. If you have any concerns please let her know. Kelly, Leslie and I will be at the Allstate Arena for WE Day. There are 15,000 kids in Illinois involved in this day. Leslie reported that she and Mary attended the STEM School at Aurora University. She attended the Government Day with Mark which was fascinating as always. Dave reported that he attended the GAF meeting on Saturday, and that they have some great ideas going on. They had a very successful graduation seat auction. He is also participating in the Chamber of Commerce 50/50 raffle. The Homecoming Hustle will take place again in the fall, so watch for more information to come out on that.

12. NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER MATTERS PERTAINING TO THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES OF THE PUBLIC BODY OR LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC BODY [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)]; COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC BODY AND ITS EMPLOYEES OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)].

At 8:23 p.m., motion by McCormick second by Wilson, to go into executive session to consider matters pertaining to student disciplinary cases; the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body or legal counsel for the public body; collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives;. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Juby, Lamb, McCormick, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

14. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:30 p.m., motion by Wilson, second by Juby, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY _____

RECORDING SECRETARY