

**GENEVA COMMUNITY UNIT SCHOOL DISTRICT NUMBER 304  
227 NORTH FOURTH STREET, GENEVA, ILLINOIS  
RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS OF A RETREAT SESSION  
OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 304 met in a retreat session on Saturday, March 17, 2012, at 8:30 a.m. at Central Office, 227 North Fourth Street, Geneva, Illinois.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 8:31 a.m. by President Grosso.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Board members present: President Mark Grosso, Vice President Kelly Nowak, Matt Henry, Mike McCormick, Tim Moran, Mary Stith, Bill Wilson. Late: None. Absent: None.

District administrators present: Craig Collins, Assistant Superintendent Personnel Services; Dawn George, Assistant Superintendent Student Services; Donna Oberg, Assistant Superintendent Business Services; Patty O'Neil, Assistant Superintendent Curriculum & Instruction; and Dr. Kent Mutchler, Superintendent.

Others present: Chris Bourdage, Sandra Ellis, Kim Griffin, Bob McQuillan, Dean Kilburg.

**3. PUBLIC COMMENT**

None.

**4. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS**

4.1 2011-2012 Goals Progress Review

4.2 2012-2013 Goal Setting, Board Action Planning, & School Improvement Planning

**Curriculum**

The Assistant Superintendent for Curriculum & Instruction discussed Common Core Standards and advised of recent meetings with representatives from the State and Regional Office of Education. The State has been slow providing resources. Also discussed traditional and integrated approaches; assessments to meet state requirements; concerns regarding IT capacity for online testing; required and optional testing and costs; changes to "cut scores;" assessment testing companies; and NCLB state waiver and possibility of revisions.

**High-quality Staff**

The Assistant Superintendent for Personnel Services discussed parental phone calls and emails to teachers; electronic communications; social media; Senate Bill 7, the new evaluation process of teachers and principals required by September 2012; student performance data in teacher and administrator evaluations, and the roll-out of a modified plan this spring; a Commission studying ROE options; our goals in recent years have been driven by State mandates; and other potential legislation impacting education staff issues.

**Student Services**

The Assistant Superintendent for Student Services discussed homeless students... 25 new this year...44 total; homeless transportation mandates and costs; English Language Learners; ESL and Bi-lingual...71 total students; mandates; transportation costs; screening; compliance manual; compliance inspections; surveys; pre-school ESL screening; various languages; potential legislation; student diversity; parent university; and ESL in goals book.

**Operations & Finance**

The Assistant Superintendent for Business Services reviewed capital expenditures; Mill Creek; Heartland; Fourth Street; Geneva High School and Burgess Field; updates on the REMS and ARRA grants; and update on food service and recommendations; potential loss of revenue from State and reduced and late payments; and proposed legislation and effects (i.e., pension reform). She noted that the current District debt is only \$155 million, not \$325 million. Debt reduction will be emphasized in our long-term goals.

4.3 Survey Results & Demographic Projection Update

The Superintendent provided information from the recent District survey and updated Kasarda demographic report. Both will be placed on the District website and used for future planning. The District used Projection B from Kasarda before and will continue that with the new B projection for future planning.

Henry left the meeting at 11:55 a.m.

4.4 Committee / Task Force Reports

(Communications, Facilities, Finance, Policy)

Finance Committee...discussion of meeting mechanics; topics; guest speakers; public comment (to be determined by committee members); and citizen input. Citizen advisory will be placed on hold until feedback regarding Finance Committee has been determined.

Facility Task Force...advised that information regarding Coultrap, Fourth Street and the Brundige twenty-seven acres will be brought to the Board this spring for review and action.

Communications Task Force...Communication Coordinator Kelley Munch can help here! Streaming video available on our web site for Board and Committee meetings.

4.5 IASB Community Engagement Program

Stith provided two handouts from the Illinois Association of School Boards on this topic...more help!

**5. ADJOURNMENT**

At 12:31 a.m., motion by Wilson, second by Moran, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

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PRESIDENT

SECRETARY \_\_\_\_\_

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RECORDING  
SECRETARY