



**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, March 13, 2023, at 7:00 p.m. at Geneva Middle School North, 1357 Viking Drive, Geneva, Illinois.

1. CALL TO ORDER (Policy 2:220)

1. Roll Call
2. Welcome
3. Pledge
4. Reminder to sign attendance sheet

Board members present: Molly Ansari, Policy Committee Chair Stephanie Bellino, Vice-President Larry Cabeen, Finance Committee Chair Jackie Forbes, President Mike McCormick, Paul Radlinski. Late: None. Absent: Dan Choi.

The President welcomed everyone and led them in the Pledge of Allegiance.

District staff present: Tim Baker, Safety Security Supervisor; Sandy Manisco, Communications Coordinator; Todd Latham, Assistant Superintendent Business Services; Dr. Andy Barrett, Assistant Superintendent Learning & Teaching; Dr. Adam Law, Assistant Superintendent Personnel Services; Dr. Kent Mutchler, Superintendent.

Others present: Ava Bahnline, Kaitlyn Boeldt, Kinsey Gracey, Rilee Hasegawa, Caroline Madden, Ella Madden, Leah Palmer, Peri Sweeney, Gabrielle Webb, Lillian Ziegler, Sarah Meadows, Samuel Ortiz, Maeve Devlin, Sadie Karlson, Brooke Lussnig, Graci Weems, Emma Wiedenhoeft, Kim Hostman, Kelsey Oswald, Minzie Choi, Eleanor Holt, Aashika Jain, Vasiliki Karalis, Anna Plemons, Cheng Shang, Ian Sofiak, Evan Swierczewski, Claire Weisserth, Fiona Weisserth, Brennan Anson, Brooke Baurer, Larkin Cohrs, Avery Cook, Tatem Doll, Sara Fuerst, Meena Gosain, AnnMarie Japlon, Ava Kerl, Mia Kerl, Regan Pairitz, Rebecca Sharratt, Carolyn Silverman, Rachael Wade, Emese Ori, David Thomas, Leslie Weems, Amy Wiedenhoeft, Sara Karlson, Klara Ori, Attila Ori, Hyesoo Choi, Shanna Madden, Nancy Lussnig, Jennifer Holt, Susannah Hamilton, Brian Kerl, Paula & Dominik Weisserth, Vineet Gosain, Shannon Doll, Jean Smith, Mallory Taylor, Hayley Nitsche, Morgan Menegnini, Sharon Sofiak, Shelley Cohrs, Sidney & Liza Jain, Dawn Gargano, Emily Erickson, Stacy & Eric Anson, Melisa Swierczewski, Steve Swierczewski, Julia Swierczewski, Martha & Joe Swierczewski, Kelsey Oswald, Liz Foulkes, Roy & Colleen Ortiz, Sarah Meadows, Katie Rusk, George Karalis, Willard Hooks

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Policy 2:220)

1. Regular Session, February 27, 2023
2. Executive Session, February 27, 2023

Motion by Cabeen second by Forbes, to approve the above-listed minutes, items 2.1-2.2. On roll call, Ayes, six (6), Ansari, Bellino, Cabeen, Forbes, McCormick, Radlinski. Nays, none (0). Absent, one (1), Choi. Abstained, none (0).

3. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Tradition of Excellence: GHS Students (Policy 6:330)

Girls' Basketball, Swimming, Gymnastics, DECA, Wrestling, Dance Team, Scholastic Art, Theatre

Girls Basketball State Qualifiers

Cassidy Arni	Hope Ieler	Erin Slagle
Ava Bahnline	Grace Kosirog	Lauren Slagle
Kaitlyn Boeldt	Reagan Krohe	Peri Sweeney
Rachel Carlson	Caroline Madden	Hanna Van Camp
Lisa Colin	Ella Madden	Ally Ward
Kinsey Gracey	Hannah McMillen	Gabrielle Webb
Rilee Hasegawa	Leah Palmer	Lillian Ziegler

Swimming State Qualifier

Samuel Ortiz

Gymnastics State Qualifiers

Maura Anderson	Reese Lackey	Graci Weems
Maeve Devlin	Brooke Lussnig	Emma Wiedenhoef
Sadie Karlson		

DECA State Competition – State Qualifiers

Marcella Anderson	Henry Hancock	Zachary Pohlman
Abby Arnold	Eleanor Holt	Aidan Post
Sara Boeldt	Alex Howe	Ria Shah
Agnes Bolender	Aashika Jain	Cheng Shang
Aidan Bryant	Aarianna James	Ian Sofiak
Minzie Choi	Vasiliki Karalis	Colin Sprague
Collin Dennison	Addison Kling	Evan Swierczewski
Lorcan Duffy	Brecken Kobylecky	Brady Thompson
Elliot Egan	Braeden Kraus	Annabelle Tomko
Ryan Fioresi	Chloe Mamott	Claire Weisserth
Matthew Gariti	Charlotte Nowak	Fiona Weisserth
James Geismann	Luisa Parente	Sean Zimmerman
Ellie Grantcharov	Anna Plemons	

Wrestling State Qualifiers

Joseph Pettit	John Schmidt	Joseph Sikorsky
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Dance Team State Qualifiers

Brennan Anson	Sara Fuerst	Lillian Kott
Brooke Bauer	Meena Gosain	Regan Pairitz
Larkin Cohrs	AnnMarie Japlon	Rebecca Sharratt
Aidan Cook	Ava Kerl	Carolyn Silverman
Tatem Doll	Mia Kerl	Rachael Wade

Scholastic Art Silver & Gold Key Recipients

Alaine Molander	Emese Ori	Fiona Weisserth
Katherine Nicholson	David Thomas	

Illinois High School Theatre Festival Tech Olympics

Luca Colburn	Abby Hecht	Katherine Voreis
Cherani Foard	Kelly Jaros	

2. ELL Newcomers Experience – Shonette Sims & Geneva Students

Shonette Sims shared information on newcomers to Geneva, who are defined as any foreign-born student and their family who have recently arrived in the United States. There are four things we do

when we have newcomers: 1) we use welcoming practices to build relationships with the students and their families, determine students' assets, and acclimate students and families to the U.S. school system; 2) offer instructional supports to ensure culturally-responsive teaching, literacy skills and language development support, leverage students' assets and primary language, and utilize technology; 3) encourage family engagement to orient families to U.S. expectations regarding education, provide opportunities to support academic success, and receive referrals to wraparound services; 4) and we do monitoring and transition to ensure regular progress of content and language development, counsel students on their progress, and inform and adjust instructional placement and supports.

Geneva students from various grade levels shared with the Board their experiences as a new student to Geneva 304 from another country. One student shared that they came here in third grade and that the teachers were very helpful in their transition. They encourage Geneva students to include new students in their activities even though they may speak another language. A student who was born in Hungary also lived in Bulgaria and France before coming to the United States. They shared that their parents were a huge support in their transition, that Americans are friendly and open minded, someone was always willing to help, and that they found a new passion in photography. One student from Turkey was nervous moving to the United States, but said that you have to work hard and always ask for help. A parent whose family comes from Iran spoke on behalf of her kindergartener, who has only been in the United States for four months, saying that her son had a hard time adjusting, but is learning to speak English. There are not many immigrants in Geneva, but the community has still been supportive. They do not share the same culture, but they are willing to learn. A student from Singapore shared that it took them a few months to get to know the school better, but their grades are better here than Singapore. If they can boost their grades, then so can their classmates.

4. LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

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."

Jackie Forbes shared that there are several bills that did not make it out of committee, but she will continue to follow them and share updates.

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

The Superintendent shared that we have ACCESS and IAR testing taking place. We wish our students the best during testing. Spring break will begin March 25 thru April 2, with students returning on April 3.

6. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATION

1. Policy Updates: Second Reading (Policy 2:240)
 1. Policy 4:120, Operational Services – Updated
 2. Policy 6:250, Instruction – Updated

These policies have been reviewed and the updates are in the legal references only.

Motion by Forbes second by Cabeen, to approve the above-listed policies, items 6.1.1-6.1.2. On roll call, Ayes, six (6), Ansari, Bellino, Cabeen, Forbes, McCormick, Radlinski. Nays, none (0). Absent, one (1), Choi. Abstained, none (0).

2. Annual Resolution for Dismissal: Part-time and Select Educational Support Personnel (Policies 5:200 & 5:290)

Dr. Adam Law shared that this resolution is brought to the Board every year around this time. The reason we do these honorable dismissals at this time is in part related to the school code that states if staff are going to be honorably dismissed, they need to have forty-five days' notice prior to the end of the school year. Our student enrollment is not yet set by this time, but as enrollment firms up and the master schedules are complete, then we know what our needs are and can call some of these support staff back.

Motion by Radlinski second by Bellino, to approve the above-listed resolution, item 6.2. On roll call,

Ayes, six (6), Ansari, Bellino, Cabeen, Forbes, McCormick, Radlinski. Nays, none (0). Absent, one (1), Choi. Abstained, none (0).

3. Annual Resolution for Dismissal: Part-time and Select Certified Staff (Policies 5:200 & 5:290)
Dr. Adam Law shared that this resolution is brought to the Board every year around this time. The reason we do these honorable dismissals at this time is in part related to the school code that states if certified staff are going to be honorably dismissed, they need to have forty-five days' notice prior to the end of the school year. Our student enrollment is not yet set by this time, but as enrollment firms up and the master schedules are complete, then we know what our needs are and can call some of these teachers back.

Motion by Forbes second by Ansari, to approve the above-listed resolution, item 6.3. On roll call, Ayes, six (6), Ansari, Bellino, Cabeen, Forbes, McCormick, Radlinski. Nays, none (0). Absent, one (1), Choi. Abstained, none (0).

7. WORK-STUDY TOPICS & FUTURE ACTION CONSIDERATION

1. 2023-24 Recommended Staffing Plan (Policy 5:200)

Dr. Law shared the 2023-24 recommended staffing plan, which proposes the following:

- Title change for "Building Technician" to Technology Support Technician"
- Title change for "District Technician" to Technology Support Specialist"
- One full-time Human Resource Administrative Assistant
- One 0.20 FTE World Language Teacher to support Seal of Biliteracy program
- Two English Language Learning Teachers
- Title change for "Coordinator of Business Services" to "Assistant Director of Business Services"

The total cost to these proposed staffing recommendations is \$159,540.

8. INFORMATION

1. Board Meeting/Presentation Schedule (Policy 2:220)
2. FOIA Requests (Policy 2:250)
3. Suspension Report (Policy 7:200)
4. Out-of-State Trip Request

9. CONSENT AGENDA

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

Resignations Certified Staff

Fuentes, Alejandra, HSS, Learning Behavior Specialist, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

FMLA Certified Staff

Bermes, Matt, GMSN, 6th Grade Teacher, effective 5/16/23-5/26/23 & 9/25/23-11/3/23

Ortega, Stacy, GMSN, 8th Grade Language Arts, effective 8/14/23-11/6/23

Retirement Certified Staff

Behlow, Martha, GHS, French, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

Benjamin, Jennifer, GMSN, Science, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

Blayney, Cynthia, GHS, Certified Nurse, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

Cook, James, GMSN, Social Studies, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

Falk, Donna, WES, Art, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

Falls, Lisa, GMSS, Learning Behavior Specialist, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

Frederick, Patrick, GHS, Music – Instrumental, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

Gargano, Dawn, HSS, Student Assistance Coordinator, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

Gross, Gale, GMSS, Physical Education, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

Horrigan, Lynn, GHS, Learning Behavior Specialist, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

Markuson, Jay, GHS, Industrial Technology, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

McDonnell, Margaret, GMSN, Learning Behavior Specialist, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

Meeks, Janet, GHS, Learning Behavior Specialist, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

Merkle, Renne, HSS, 1st Grade Teacher, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

Reilly, Richard, GMSS, Social Studies, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23
Spencer, Kathy, WAS, Learning Behavior Specialist, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23
Swidenbank, Renee, GHS, German, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23
Szkola, Linda, GHS, Learning Behavior Specialist, 1.0 FTE, effective 5/26/23

New Hires Support Staff

Munoz, Veronica, CO, Administrative Assistant, effective 3/13/23
Beal, Claudia, TRAN, Bus Driver, effective 3/7/23
Barajas, Alejandro, GMSN, 2nd Shift Custodian, effective 3/20/23

Resignations Support Staff

Fruit, Stephanie, WES, Special Education Assistant, effective 3/24/23
Tomala, Melissa, HES, Special Education Assistant, effective 3/17/23

Termination Support Staff

Galley, Susan, TRAN, Bus Driver, effective 3/15/23
Erst, Tom, TRAN, Bus Driver, effective 5/31/22

FMLA Support Staff

Fuller, Amy, CO, District Tech, effective 3/24/23-4/7/23

New Hire Administrators

O'Connell, Casey, WAS, Principal, effective 7/1/23

2. Monthly Financials - February (Policy 4:40, 4:55)
3. Annual Resolution for Joint Agreement as Part of the FVCC (Policy 6:185)
4. Gifts, Grants, Bequests: \$2,000, Meggan Rogers, sensory swing for FAST Program (Policy 8:80)
5. Request for Payment #6: \$11,771, Johnson Controls Inc., for GMSN DDC Upgrade (Policy 4:60)
6. Bid Summary: \$214,709.25, Correct Electric, Inc., for CESC Fire Alarm Replacement w/5% construction contingency (Policy 4:60)
7. Bid Summary: \$91,786.04, Murnane Paper, for copy paper (Policy 4:60)
8. IHSA Membership Renewal

Motion by Cabeen second by Bellino, to approve the above-listed, items 9.1-9.8. On roll call, Ayes, six (6), Ansari, Bellino, Cabeen, Forbes, McCormick, Radlinski. Nays, none (0). Absent, one (1), Choi. 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.*

A parent shared their concerns regarding Illinois State Law, House Bill 0156 and the mandate by the Kane County Regional Office of Education that all boys bathrooms be outfitted with free menstrual product dispensers. They were installed in our district over the summer prior to school starting. Although the Board's hands are tied, it opens up a whole series of questions regarding our districts policy, communications with parents and guardians, future policy, and financial impact to our district. The reason for these comments is to inform the community about this law.

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, PRIDE, Fox Valley Career Center, IASB/Legislative, IASB Kishwaukee Governing Board

This week is the high school musical, The Hunchback of Notre Dame. We encourage the community to attend and support the drama club. The Facilities Task Force met today and discussed upcoming maintenance expenditures as far as six years out. Efforts have been made in this department to even out the expenditures. This was a special evening with all the awards. We have such strong, talented, and brave students. The ELL presentation tonight was the best so far during my time on the Board. The Technology Task Force met where they discussed some upcoming work.

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 SCHEDULES FOR ONE OR MORE CLASSES OF EMPLOYEES [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)]. [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)] (Policy 2:220)

At 8:34 p.m., motion by Cabeen, second by Forbes, 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 schedules for one or more classes of employees.

At 8:59 p.m., the Board returned to open session.

14. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:59 p.m., motion by Cabeen second by Bellino and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

_____ PRESIDENT

SECRETARY _____

_____ RECORDING
SECRETARY