

Achieve Excellence and Empower Students to Succeed

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, 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 16, 2026, at 7:00 p.m. at Coultrap Educational Services Center, 227 North Fourth Street, 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, President Larry Cabeen, Dan Choi, Vice President/Finance Committee Chair Jackie Forbes, Willard Hooks, Paul Radlinski. Late: None. Absent: None.

The President welcomed everyone, and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

District staff present: Doug Drexler, Associate Principal Geneva High School; Tom Rogers, Principal Geneva High School; Adrian Ramirez, Assistant Director for Business Services; George Petmezas, Director Learning & Teaching; Shonette Sims, Assistant Superintendent Learning & Teaching; Adam Law, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel Services; Dr. Andy Barrett, Superintendent.

Others present: Jace Christensen, Brady Jordan, Nate Walkington, Minah Choi, Cam Fozo, Josh Frieders, Shivangi Goyal, Anishka Jain, Aaron Masoncup, Brennan Post, Lynn Fors, Abhishek Goyal, Ande Masoncup, Sean Masoncup, Gina Jordan, Liz Simpson, Cathy Fuller, Elizabeth Kinolig, Hyesoo Choi, Liza Jain, Michelle Prieboy, Terri Frieders, Mike Frieders, Merritt Nemcek, Heather Post, Jan Walkington, Lauren Wagner, Eryn Shannon, Lauri Haugen, Jill Marsh, Anne Hallahan.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Policy 2:220)

1. Regular Session, February 23, 2026
2. Executive Session, February 23, 2026

Motion by Choi second by Forbes, to approve the above-listed minutes, items 2.1-2.2. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Ansari, Bellino, Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, Hooks, Radlinski. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

3. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS

1. Tradition of Excellence: GHS Students & Staff (Policy 6:330)
Boys Swimming, DECA, Lynn Fors – Spanish Teacher

IHSA Boys Swimming State Qualifiers

Jace Christensen Brady Jordan Nate Walkington

DECA State Competition State Qualifiers

Ben Banks Reese Gimre Charlie Mond

Minah Choi
Alexa Cosky
Cam Fozo
Josh Frieders

Shivangi Goyal
Will Hansberger
Anishka Jain
Aaron Masoncup

Joe Padgett
Brennan Post
Cole Steben

AFS-USA Global Educator Award Finalist
Lynn Fors

2. Elementary Literacy Pilot Update & Proposal – Literacy Committee
Members of the Literacy Committee shared an update on the literacy program called HMH Into Reading that the district has been piloting at the elementary level. There are seven components to literacy, and they are oracy, phonological awareness, word recognition, fluency, vocabulary, comprehension, and writing. What this program offers is foundational skills, diverse texts, differentiation, and module assessments. The key components to this program are diverse literature and writing, comprehensive assessment tools, integrated digital and print resources, and targeted support and enrichment. Each unit is structured over three weeks. Week one is to engage and build excitement while making connections, week two is making connections, and week three is making connections and demonstrating understanding. Students gave a thumbs up to the program saying the stories were amazing, it has reading goals and quick checks, and after each story you write about it. Teachers also gave a thumbs up saying Classcraft is engaging, the materials/resources are excellent, appreciate the spiraling comprehension skills, overarching themes and rich text selections, and the stories are engaging for students. The plan for implementation would be professional learning and training, material distribution and digital access, ongoing coaching and support, and family communication and engagement. The cost for this program is \$724,203 or \$38 per student for a six-year contract.

Board comments, questions, concerns: What happens if a student struggles with word problems in math? (What is currently happening is they break apart those story problems making sure they understand the mathematical language they need to know, then they pull out the relevant information. With a robust reading program, we hope that will help, but they will still have to pull apart the math from the story problem.) With the online piece, we have families that are concerned about the amount of screen time their children have. Are we looking at the different options so that students are not always on their computer? (The kindergarten curriculum can be taught without a computer if we choose.) Was there any part of this where you thought it could be stronger? (One area we felt needed improvement was the writing portion. We took this concern back to the rep and we are waiting to hear back.) What does HMH stand for? (Houghton Mifflin Harcourt.) What do family notification and engagement look like? (The plan is to notify parents and the community of the components that Into Reading offers. We will let families know what resources can be used at home.) When a child is going through remediation, is there a point where the student needs support? (We look at our universal assessments that is given to all students. and we have a multi-tiered system of support. We are still working through what those tiers look like.)

3. Elementary Capacity Analysis Update – Dr. Barrett
Dr. Barrett shared that the district started their strategic plan in 2024 beginning with a demographic study in the fall of 2024, which was followed by a facility capacity analysis in the spring of 2025. In the 2025-2026 school year, the district did a critical facility evaluation. Two key new things that have happened are the new La Fox development, along with a presentation to the board this past fall. This development will consist of 900 total units that will attend Geneva schools. The timeline for this development is 15-20 years and brings the potential for hundreds of new students to Geneva. Some things to consider are the implications this development will have on

our elementary attendance areas and what do we know about our elementary capacity and building usage efficiency. Right now, we are utilizing our buildings relatively efficiently and our class size targets have helped establish more consistency across the district. Previous recommendations were to maintain the current boundary structure, collaborate with stakeholders to determine long-term facility needs for the Geneva Early Learning Program (GELP), and determine appropriate attendance area for new students in the La Fox of Campton Hills area. There are three elementaries that surround this development. They are Fabyan Elementary, Mill Creek Elementary, and Heartland Elementary. Based on the data we have collected we have some options. One option is to change the boundary attendance area for the La Fox of Campton Hills and that area from the Mill Creek boundary area to the Fabyan boundary area. The rationale for this is that the Fabyan area has limited room for growth where Mill Creek and Heartland have room for potential growth. Fabyan is also not an ideal location for the GELP program, so we need to talk about what that might look like. We need to determine a long-term location for GELP, establish a timeline for decision making and potential implementation, and explore options for current students and residences within the boundary area. We will continue with ongoing investigation and analysis, get more information about the La Fox development, plan for the future of GELP, and make a decision prior to the start of construction.

Board comments, questions, concerns: In the Fabyan Elementary area is there any talk of development around Hughes and Bunker? (No.) Have we thought about how long a bus ride this would be for students? (Yes, Mr. Johnson and I have already had conversations. It really is not that far.)

4. 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.
None.

5. LEGISLATIVE UPDATES

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."
None.

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

The Superintendent shared that staff recently participated in the County-Wide Institute Day that included both Kane and DuPage counties. There was a wide variety of opportunities, even for specialists and unique roles. Safety and reunification training also took place on this institute day. He also shared what a significant impact capital projects can have for our students. He met with students in the library at GHS last week and he was able to see how the space was being utilized. The ongoing maintenance does make a difference. He thanked the residents and neighbors who do not have students in school but still support the school district through their tax dollars and by attending events hosted by the district. We continue to work with our Communications Coordinator, Sandy Riley, to expand our outreach efforts.

7. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATION

1. 2026-27 Finance Committee Calendar Draft

Motion by Radlinski second by Forbes, to approve the above-listed, item 7.1. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Ansari, Bellino, Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, Hooks, Radlinski. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

2. Resolution Authorizing the Loan of \$10,000 from the Working Cash Fund to the Flex Benefit Fund

Dr. Barrett shared that this transfer is needed because with the flex spending account funds are given to the employee up front and then deducted from their paycheck over the course of the year. Sometimes, employees spend all their funds before they have been repaid. When the account catches up the \$10,000 will be transferred back to the Working Cash Fund.

Motion by Choi second by Forbes, to adopt the resolution authorizing the loan of \$10,000 from the Working Cash Fund to the Flex Benefit Fund pursuant to 105 ILCS 5/20-5, item 7.2. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Ansari, Bellino, Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, Hooks, Radlinski. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

8. WORK-STUDY TOPICS & FUTURE ACTION CONSIDERATION

1. 2026-27 Preliminary Resource/Textbook Adoption (Policy 6:40)
HMH Into Reading is being proposed for elementary levels at a cost of approximately \$724,203.07. The high school is proposing Psychology 2 as a returning course with dual credit opportunity, updated curriculum and text workbook for AP Psychology, updated textbooks for Psychology I, a contemporary novel for AP Literature, a contemporary graphic novel, contemporary mystery novel, contemporary novel, and short drama for English I H, updated course workbook for Health and Safety, continued phase-in of previously adopted online textbook series for French 3 and French 3 H, updated textbook series for German I, German 2, and German 2 H. The estimated cost for the high school is \$40,845. These items will be on display at the district office and will be brought back to a future meeting for adoption.

Board comments, questions, concerns: How will the community be notified of these textbooks/resources? (Notification will go out in our weekly notification this Friday that the items are on display.) I noticed there were German resources on the list. This was a course we contemplated doing away with last year. Do we have enough interest to keep running this? (The German I classes are full this year. We said that once a student starts the program that they will be able to finish it.) So, are the current resources insufficient? (No, but there is newer curriculum that includes novels and other components that are not in the older curriculum.) What makes curriculum dated? (It is more about contemporary text and seeing primary resources. It is also learning how to use the language in action.) How many students are in a full cohort? (There are 15-20 from each middle school and the high school for German I.) So, the student's have not been reading novels? (They have been reading, but the teacher has had to supplement.)

9. INFORMATION

1. Board Meeting/Presentation Schedule (Policy 2:220)
2. FOIA Requests & Board Correspondence (Policy 2:250)
3. Suspension Report (Policy 7:200)

10. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Personnel Report: Resignations, Retirements, Leave Requests, Changes in Assignment/FTE, New Hires (Policies 3:50, 5:200, 5:280)
2. Monthly Financials - February (Policy 4:40, 4:55)
3. Annual Resolution for Joint Agreement as Part of the FVCC (Policy 6:185)
4. IHSA Membership Renewal
5. Gifts, Grants, Bequests: \$3,435.67, FES PTO, for SNAG (Starting New at Golf) equipment (Policy 8:80)
6. Gifts, Grants, Bequests: \$2,000, The Humke Group, for the GHS Robotics Club (Policy 8:80)
7. Bid Summary/Award: \$1,077,252, Marco Technologies LLC, for district copiers

8. Bid Summary/Award: \$72,147.80, Murnane Paper, for copy paper
Motion by Choi second by Radlinski, to approve the above-listed, items 10.1-10.7.
On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Ansari, Bellino, Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, Hooks, Radlinski.
Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0).

11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Thank you to all of tonight's presenters. The information shared was helpful. Congrats to the students that were recognized tonight. It is great to see varying types of activities happening at the schools. A board member attended many concerts over the last week to wrap up the winter. The next Theater Boosters meeting is later this week where they will start preparing for the spring musical "Chicago." Shout out to the Literacy Committee for all their hard work over the past couple of years as they piloted the new curriculum. Adrian Ramirez presented at the Finance Committee meeting tonight and shared some valuable information. The Facility Task Force met today. At the end of spring break all the 2025 projects will be complete and we will be gearing up for the 2026 projects. A board member attended the IASB Kishwaukee Division Meeting in Machesney Park. The topic was AI and it was quite interesting. Heartland Elementary had an event called "Crepes and Art" that included a presenter that talked about art.

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 8:38 p.m., motion by Bellino, second by Choi, to go into executive session 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 9:16 p.m., the Board returned to open session.

14. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:16 p.m., motion by Hooks second by Forbes and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED _____ PRESIDENT
(Date)

SECRETARY _____