

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, KANE COUNTY, ILLINOIS POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

The Board of Education Policy Committee met at 6:30 p.m. on Monday, December 16, 2024, at Coultrap Educational Services Center, 227 North Fourth Street, Geneva, Illinois.

1. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 6:34 p.m. by Committee Chair Bellino.

Committee members present: Molly Ansari, Stephanie Bellino, Willard C. Hooks Jr.

District staff present: Todd Latham, Assistant Superintendent for Business Services; Shonette Sims, Assistant Superintendent Learning & Teaching; Dr. Andy Barrett, Superintendent.

Others present: Larry Cabeen.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT (Policy 2:230)

None.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Policy 2:220)

1. November 11, 2024

Motion by Ansari, second by Hooks, to approve the minutes as presented. Ayes, three (3), Ansari, Bellino, Hooks. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

4. DISCUSSION / POSSIBLE FUTURE CONSIDERATION

1. Policy 6:60, Curriculum Content – **Updated**

This policy expects that we are teaching the dangers of fentanyl at the high school level and that has been embedded in our health course for a couple of years now. They have now modified that to start conversations in the middle school grades. We met with our middle school health educators to identify where that might fit and any other resources they might need to assist them. As part of our Drivers Education coursework, we now must include the safety of workers in work zones. At the K-12 level, we are to be adding some units and evaluating what we are teaching in environmental education, the needs for conservation of our natural resources, and the impact of climate change. Some of the work that we have been engaged in at the high school level, as it relates to the College and Career Readiness indicators that we are collecting allows students to graduate with a scholar diploma if they meet certain criteria. What has been added to this is the College and Career Pathway Endorsement (CCPE), which aligns with the PaCE framework. We have engaged in work with the high school and will engage with the middle schools after winter break. The district can opt out of this requirement, however, to do so we would have to prove our own work. Most districts around us will be using the PaCe framework. The deadline for this is July 1, 2025, so we will have to engage in some of that work.

Comments, questions, concerns: Did it seem like with the work we did with the guidance office, that we are where we should be at the high school level? (Yes, we are in a good place at the high school.)

2. Policy 6:135, Accelerated Placement Program – **Updated**

With this policy, the goal that we should have is to ensure that students demonstrate that they would be successful in advanced coursework. We just talked today about how well those recommendations and placements have been for our students. This past year, we were to use criteria of a student that met or exceeded criteria. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has shifted for these next couple of years to allow us to use “exceeds” only. They are doing this because they are working on what the criteria will be for demonstrating proficiency as a school district. We are choosing to continue using “meets or exceeds” to identify students. There is another question being asked of the Policy Committee in terms of taking this policy forward. It is a statement that says, “Waiver of a course completion requirement under Board policy 6:300, *Graduation Requirements*, if the district determines that the student has demonstrated mastery of or competency in the content of the course or unit of instruction.” Our recommendation would be to not include this in our policy.

Comments, questions, concerns: So, we will stay as we have this past year and not adjust the policy? (Correct.) Do we know the results or is this something we could review at a later date? (We just talked about that today with our secondary principals. We do not have the grades to attach yet.) Even without the grades, we were able to see what the default recommendation was on this policy and based on this we were able to see that some of the students dropped this course. Those that followed the teacher’s recommendation, only a small amount made a change. Long term this could be helpful in guiding our 8th grade students.

Motion by Hooks, second by Ansari, to approve moving the policies as presented, items 4.1-4.2, forward to the full board. Ayes, three (3), Ansari, Bellino, Hooks. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

5. **INFORMATION**

None.

6. **OUTSTANDING POLICY CLEANUP & REVIEW ***

None.

7. **ADJOURNMENT**

At 6:48 p.m., on a motion by Hooks, a second by Ansari, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED _____
Date

_____ CHAIRPERSON
Stephanie Bellino

SECRETARY _____
Bonnie J. Johnson