

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

The Board of Education of Community Unit School District Number 304 met in a special session, Board of Education Workshop, presented by the Illinois Association of School Boards, on Saturday, August 17, 2013, at 8:30 a.m. at Central Office, 227 North Fourth Street, Geneva, Illinois.

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

- 1.1 Roll Call
- 1.2 Welcome
- 1.3 Reminder to Sign Attendance Record

The meeting was called to order at 8:30 a.m. by President Grosso.

Board members present: Mark Grosso, Leslie Juby, David Lamb, Michael McCormick, Mary Stith, Bill Wilson. Late: None. Absent: Kelly Nowak.

The President welcomed everyone and reminded them to sign the attendance record.

District administrators present: Dr. Andrew Barrett, Director Curriculum & Instruction; Ron Zeman, Principal, Western Avenue School; Shonette Sims, Principal, Harrison Street School; Darcy Thompson, Principal, Fabyan Elementary School; George Petmezas, Principal, Mill Creek School; Doug Drexler, Associate Principal, Geneva High School; Craig Collins, Assistant Superintendent Personnel Services; Donna Oberg, Assistant Superintendent Business Services; Patty O'Neil, Assistant Superintendent Curriculum & Instruction; and Dr. Kent Mutchler, Superintendent.

Others present: Sandra Kawasa and Steve Clark from IASB.

**2. PUBLIC COMMENTS**

None.

**3. IASB DATA FIRST WORKSHOP**

Ms. Kawasa introduced the functions of the IASB and highlighted upcoming meetings and workshops sponsored by the association as part of board member training and professional growth, as well as the contact information for the association related to topics of boardmanship, legislation, and other topics important to public education in Illinois.

The workshop began with an explanation and ground rules for "*How to Get the Most Learning from the Event*" and emphasized sharing, open communication, active listening, appreciation, and questions throughout the workshop to get the most out of this by all attendees.

Topics discussed included:

Student achievement and how it fits with the board's foundational principals was highlighted by a discussion of the roles of school board members and the importance of student achievement in our public schools.

Discussion of trends in public education and the use of data in analyzing these trends; a look at the use and misuse of data and highlighted statistical concepts including the purpose of different charts; the importance of comparing information; and, especially, comparisons to a target; the use of color in charts; the possible uses of a decision matrix; distribution models;

scatter plots; and other methods to present and interpret data.

From 9:50 to 10:00 a.m., the group took a break.

A presentation of the data cycle included: (1) establishing a baseline, (2) alignment of resources, (3) establishing programs and practices, and (4) measuring and reporting student outcomes and how data may be used throughout this cycle. There was an active discussion of each of the four quadrants and questions and supporting data that could be discussed in each one.

At 11:15 a.m., the group took another break.

Much of the discussion focused on the use of lagging indicators vs. leading indicators and the active use of data in determining decisions and direction for a district in helping students to learn most effectively.

From 12:00 to 12:20 p.m., the group took a lunch break.

Discussion continued and focused on teacher quality and some of the possible impacts that data show that teachers can have on students in their classroom using proficiency and growth models. The key of this discussion was on the interpretation of data as a reflection of the work of teachers with their students.

At 1:30 p.m., Member McCormick left the meeting.

The workshop concluded with the presentation of the board's role in using teacher quality and student achievement data with an emphasis that data is becoming more important in the daily and the long-term leadership of school districts; that it is important for the board to know and communicate how students are achieving in a district; how staff impact that achievement for both planning and decision making in our public schools; and in reporting data to the community as part of accountability.

The Board received information on additional resources that may be helpful for gathering and interpreting data in education.

**4. ADJOURNMENT**

At 2:30 p.m., motion by Wilson, second by Juby, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_

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PRESIDENT

SECRETARY \_\_\_\_\_

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RECORDING SECRETARY  
(Kent Mutchler)