

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, April 27, 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: Policy Committee Chair Stephanie Bellino, President Larry Cabeen, Dan Choi, Vice President/Finance Committee Chair Jackie Forbes, Paul Radlinski. Late: None. Absent: Molly Ansari, Willard Hooks.

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

District staff present: Tom Rogers, Principal Geneva High School; Tim Baker, Security Coordinator; Brian Pedersen, Director of Operations; Todd Latham, Assistant Superintendent 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: Cathy Fuller, Jennifer Chintala, Virginia Sanchez, Ryan Estabrook, Amanda Oxler, Melissa Cunningham. Lisa Rios, Rebecca Reeve, Tyler Hoffman, Claire Hoffman, Joey Chintala, Ila Cunningham, Claire Reeve, Emmi Rios, Alvin Tang.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Policy 2:220)

1. Regular Session, April 13, 2026
2. Executive Session, April 13, 2026

Motion by Forbes second by Choi, to approve the above-listed minutes, items 2.1-2.2. On roll call, Ayes, four (4), Bellino, Cabeen, Choi, Forbes. Nays, none (0). Absent, two (2), Ansari, Hooks. Abstained, one (1), Radlinski.

3. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS

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

IDEA State Qualifiers

Blake Beaulieu	Grant Conley	Zach Evans
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Math Team State Competition

Claire Austin	Zach Feucht	Emmi Rios
Addison Brinks	Tyler Haney	Ella Riviere

Joey Chintala
Matthew Cortez
Ila Cunningham
Evan Eberhardt
Landon Fanale

Tyler Hoffman
Kirill Lunin
Gianna Oxler
Jonathan Papasevastos
Claire Reeve

Vikki Romanova
Addison Ryan
Raul Sanchez
Alvin Tang
Somansh Tripathi

2. 2026-2027 Capital Improvement Plan – Brian Pedersen

Brian Pedersen shared an update on the 2025-2026 and 2026-2027 capital projects. All projects for 2025-2026 were completed on time and under budget. The schools included Geneva High School, Geneva Middle School North, Geneva Middle School South, Harrison Street Elementary, Heartland Elementary, Mill Creek Elementary, Fabyan Elementary, and Keslinger Bus Garage. At Mill Creek Elementary one project had to be delayed until the 2026-2027 school year. That was the VAV actuator valve replacement. Projects that were completed included: (1) GHS: gymnasium fan installation, library renovation, modernization of elevators, AHS replacement, chiller replacement, maintenance garage MAU replacement; (2) GMSN: track replacement; (3) GMSS: roof work, masonry work, and interior painting; (4) HES: chiller and pump replacements; (5) HSS: chiller and pump replacements and fire alarm system replacement; (6) FES: LED upgrades; and (7) TRAN: parking lot expansion and additional propane tank installation.

Projects for the 2026-2027 school year will begin June 1st and include Geneva High School, Geneva Middle School North, Geneva Middle School South, Fabyan Elementary, Harrison Street Elementary, Mill Creek Elementary, and Keslinger Bus Garage. Projects include: (1) GHS: greenhouse glazing system replacement, paving and site work at east parking lot and student drop off, boiler house fire separation wall, tennis court replacement, server room split system replacement, masonry work, and roof work; (2) GMSN: boiler plant replacement and chiller water pumps, and health life safety category A items; (3) GMSS: replace emergency generator and transfer switch, fire alarm upgrades, elevator modernization, health life safety category A items, and window blind replacement; (4) FES: mechanical piping repairs; (5) HSS: domestic water heater replacement; (6) MCS: masonry cleaning, tuckpointing, replace VAV valves, and LED lighting upgrade; and (7) TRANS: mechanic pit replacement.

Board comments, questions, concerns: At the high school with the paving projects, if we had to do the speed bump, would that be on us or the city? (If we wanted to get rid of it that would be on us.)

3. 2026-2027 Preliminary O&M Budget – Brian Pedersen

Brian Pedersen shared the preliminary O&M budget with the board. The revenue from State and local sources is estimated to be \$16,970,161, salaries and benefits are estimated to be \$7,291,449, professional services are estimated to be \$3,930,681, supplies and materials are estimated to be \$3,058,505, capital purchases are estimated to be \$150,500, and other services, contingency, and non-capital are estimated to be \$591,000. The five-year comparison for revenue shows an increase in local funds with state funds remaining stable. The total revenue is estimated to be \$16,970,161. Expenditures have fluctuated in the various categories in the five-year comparison. The total expenditures are estimated to be \$15,021,635. This would leave a fund balance of \$1,948,526. The next steps will be to finalize salaries and benefits, confirm fund balances, finalize Capital Plan, and prepare the Fund 60 Plan.

Board comment, questions, concerns: When we went with the new working agreement, one of the issues was keeping positions filled. Have we seen improvements over the last two years? (Yes, maintenance and grounds are fully staffed, and we are only down a couple of custodians, which is substantial from two years ago.)

4. Safety & Security Presentation – Tim Baker

Tim Baker shared a safety and security update. The role of safety and security is to make sure that the school is safe for the students and staff. The goal when the students walk out of the building on the last day of school is that we are setting up safety and security for the next school year. We go to each building to make sure that everything is working properly. We are in the third year of the security camera upgrade. Currently, Geneva High School and both middle schools are complete, as well as Williamsburg Elementary, Harrison Street Elementary, and the bus transportation garage. The focus for next year will be the last four schools. Every year schools execute six required drills. We are in the fourth year of the School Emergency Response Plan training for parent unification. Per the plan, future trainings and tabletop exercises will reinforce the training that was provided. Each year we have an annual meeting with our first responders and our schools to gather the information needed in case of an emergency. We have posters at each school and ID cards that have the I Love U Guys standard response protocol on them. A Memorandum of Understanding is completed each year with the reunification sites. There is a safe school tip-line in case you suspect or become aware of anyone planning or acting in any unsafe manner. All our schools have the Raptor Visitor Management System, where they can check visitors in before they enter the building. We continue to train our staff so they can troubleshoot issues when they arise. There are several other compliance checks that are completed such as exterior ground perimeter checks, exterior doors are closing properly, and custodian closets are closed and locked. The district continues to stay up to date on safety and security best practices through the School Safety Information Sharing Program, meetings with the Regional Office of Education, newsletters and magazines, webinars, conferences, and networking with other districts.

Board comments, questions, concerns: With Mr. Baker's retirement and the Resource Officer changing, will there be any overlap with all the institutional knowledge leaving? (The new Resource Officer is already working with our current Resource Officer, and we are already working with Mr. Baker on his transition.)

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."

Jackie Forbes shared information on HB 5107, which has to do with panic alarms installed in schools. The bill did pass through the House and is now in the Senate. There was a key word that stood out that said "districts shall **consider** use of the mobile panic alarm system." This could be the key that gives some flexibility because this is an unfunded mandate if it passes. There is also a constitutional amendment called "The Millionaire's Tax," which was recommending a 3% surcharge on a portion of a person's net income if it was greater than \$1 million. It does not appear that this will move forward. If discussion continues on this, the 3% surcharge would be used for property tax relief and school districts. There is also the Mega Project Bill, which has to do with the Chicago Bears stadium. This is one that we need to keep our eyes on as it could have implications for the district like how a TIF works.

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

The Superintendent shared that Administrative Professionals Day was last week and that there are approximately forty awesome individuals in D304 that make a

difference for everyone in our community. He thanked Mr. Baker and his staff for everything they do to keep our students safe. He also thanked our first responders and community partners who collaborate with us to keep our schools safe for students. Lastly, he shared that we are in the final stages of the data conversion of our new student information system. Several user training sessions have been held with more planned over the summer. Thank you to the amazing people working us through this transition!

7. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATION

1. Consolidated District Plan

Dr. George Petmezas shared that his department has already begun planning for the next school year. Part of the process is the approval of the Consolidated District Plan. This is the first step in opening and having access to all the federal grants. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has set three goals for this plan. They are student learning, learning conditions, and elevating educators. The grants that are included in the plan are Title I, Title II, Title III, Title IV, and the IDEA (Individuals with Disabilities Education Act). The hope is that the board will approve this plan tonight so that the district can submit their grant applications.

Motion by Choi second by Forbes, to approve the above-listed, item 7.1. On roll call, Ayes, five (5), Bellino, Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, Radlinski. Nays, none (0). Absent, two (2), Ansari, Hooks. Abstained, none (0).

2. 2025-2026 Designation of Auditor (Policy 4:80)

Todd Latham shared that the district is required to conduct an annual audit each year performed by an independent certified public accountant designated by the board. The Business Office is recommending that the board approve Wipfli LLP audit services for the year ending June 30, 2026.

Motion by Radlinski second by Bellino, to approve the above-listed auditor, item 7.2. On roll call, Ayes, five (5), Bellino, Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, Radlinski. Nays, none (0). Absent, two (2), Ansari, Hooks. Abstained, none (0).

8. WORK-STUDY TOPICS & FUTURE ACTION CONSIDERATION

1. Support Staff Classification and Compensation Study

2. Policy Updates: First Reading – **Updated, Reviewed & New** (Policy 2:240)

1. Exhibit 2:140-E, Guidance for Board Member Communications, Including Email Use - Rewritten
2. Policy 2:200, Types of Board of Education Meetings – Updated
3. Policy 2:220, Board of Education Meeting Procedure – Updated
4. Policy 2:250, Access to District Public Records – Updated
5. Policy 2:260, Uniform Grievance Procedure – Updated
6. Policy 4:165, Awareness and Prevention of Child Sexual Abuse and Grooming Behaviors – Updated
7. Policy 5:30, Hiring Process and Criteria – Updated
8. Policy 5:250, Leaves of Absence – Updated
9. Policy 5:330, Sick Days, Vacation, Holidays, and Leaves – Updated
10. Policy 6:65, Student Social and Emotional Development – Updated
11. Policy 6:100, Using Animals in the Educational Program – Updated
12. Policy 6:145, Migrant Students – Updated
13. Policy 6:170, Title I Programs – Updated
14. Policy 6:180, Extended Instructional Programs – Updated
15. Policy 7:20, Harassment of Students Prohibited – Updated
16. Policy 7:50, School Admissions and Student Transfers To and From Non-District Schools – Updated
17. Policy 7:100, Health, Eye, and Dental Examinations; and Exclusion of Students – Updated
18. Policy 7:185, Teen Dating Violence Prohibited – Updated

19. Policy 7:220, Bus Conduct – Review & Monitoring
20. Policy 7:230, Misconduct by Students with Disabilities – Review & Monitoring
21. Policy 7:240, Conduct Code for Participation in Extracurricular Activities – Updated
22. Policy 7:260, Exemption from Physical Education – Updated
23. Policy 7:280, Communicable and Chronic Infectious Disease – Review & Monitoring
24. Policy 7:300, Extracurricular Athletics – Updated
25. Policy 8:90, Parent Organizations and Booster Clubs – Updated

Stephanie Bellino shared that most of the policies are just legal updates, language updates, or up for review. They have been reviewed by the Policy Committee. Two policies, 2:200 and 2:220, have questions that need to be answered. For policy 2:200, the question was regarding posting a meeting notice in multiple locations if we have a special meeting, so not just posting it at Central Office, but also at the meeting location. The committee is recommending “no” for this question because our meetings are held at our district office. For policy 2:220, the question is about roll call on all matters during a meeting. The committee is recommending “yes” for this question because it is our current process.

Board comments, questions, concerns: For policy 6:145, Migrant Students, they changed the word “children” to “students” but then used the word “children” later in the same sentence. Could we look into this? (Yes.)

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 - March (Policy 4:40, 4:55)
3. Gifts, Grants, Bequests: \$500, Richardson Electrics Limited, for the GHS Robotics Club (Policy 8:80)
4. Gifts, Grants, Bequests: \$17,411, Mill Creek PTO, to purchase new playground equipment (Policy 8:80)

Motion by Bellino second by Choi, to approve the above-listed, items 10.1-10.4. On roll call, Ayes, five (5), Bellino, Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, Radlinski. Nays, none (0). Absent, two (2), Ansari, Hooks. Abstained, none (0).

11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Board members congratulated the students who received the Tradition of Excellence award tonight. They said it was great to see students recognized for academics. They also thanked the presenters for their presentations that contained a lot of valuable information. It is great to hear about the playground upgrade at Mill Creek School. Thank you to everyone that came out during the inclement weather tonight. Board members attended the musical “Chicago” at the high school this past weekend. It was an exceptional performance. May 9th is prom and the Prom Committee is looking for donations and volunteers for post prom. The GHS Jazz Dinner is on May 19th. The GHS band and the GHS Blue Tones will be performing. Dinner will be provided by Riganato’s. What stood out tonight is how much our staff puts into students by creating opportunities for them. Thank you to everyone that came out to see the musical at the high school. All shows were almost sold out. ABC countdowns have started in our elementary schools. A board member attended a City Council meeting where they recognized some of our middle and high school students.

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)]; APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, OR DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC INDIVIDUALS WHO SERVE AS INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS IN A PARK, RECREATIONAL, OR EDUCATIONAL SETTING, OR SPECIFIC VOLUNTEERS OF THE PUBLIC BODY OR LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC BODY, INCLUDING HEARING TESTIMONY ON A COMPLAINT LODGED AGAINST AN EMPLOYEE, A SPECIFIC INDIVIDUAL WHO SERVES AS AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR IN A PARK, RECREATIONAL, OR EDUCATIONAL SETTING, OR A VOLUNTEER OF THE PUBLIC BODY OR AGAINST LEGAL COUNSEL FOR THE PUBLIC BODY TO DETERMINE ITS VALIDITY. HOWEVER, A MEETING TO CONSIDER AN INCREASE IN COMPENSATION TO A SPECIFIC EMPLOYEE THAT IS SUBJECT TO THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT WAGE INCREASE TRANSPARENCY ACT MAY NOT BE CLOSED AND MUST BE OPEN TO THE PUBLIC AND POSTED AND HELD IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ACT [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)]. [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)] (Policy 2:220)**

At 8:22 p.m., motion by Bellino, 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; appointment, employment, compensation, or discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific individuals who serve as independent contractors in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or specific volunteers of the public body or legal counsel for the public body, including hearing testimony on a complaint lodged against an employee, a specific individual who serves as an independent contractor in a park, recreational, or educational setting, or a volunteer public body or against legal counsel for the public body to determine validity. However, a meeting to consider an increase in compensation to a specific employee that is subject to the local government Wage Increase Transparency Act may not be closed and must be open to the public and posted and held in accordance with this Act.

At 8:56 p.m., the Board returned to open session.

14. POSSIBLE ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

- 1. GEA Contract

Motion by Forbes second by Bellino, to approve the temporary GEA contract, item 14.1. On roll call, Ayes, five (5), Bellino, Cabeen, Choi, Forbes, Radlinski. Nays, none (0). Absent, two (2), Ansari, Hooks. Abstained, none (0).

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:57 p.m., motion by Forbes second by Bellino and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED _____ PRESIDENT
(Date)

SECRETARY _____