

**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, February 27, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. at Coultrap, 1113 Peyton, Geneva, Illinois.

1. CALL TO ORDER

- 1.1 Roll Call
- 1.2 Welcome
- 1.3 Pledge
- 1.4 Reminder to sign attendance sheet

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by President Grosso.

Board members present: President Mark Grosso, Vice President Kelly Nowak, Matt Henry, Mike McCormick, Tim Moran, Policy Committee Chair Mary Stith, Bill Wilson. Absent: None.

District administrators present: Shonette Sims, Principal Harrison Street Elementary School; Elizabeth Janowiak, Director of Technology; Andy Barrett, Director of Curriculum; Craig Collins, Assistant Superintendent Personnel Services; Dawn George, Assistant Superintendent Student Services; Donna Oberg, Assistant Superintendent Business Services; Patty O'Neil, Assistant Superintendent Curriculum & Instruction; and Dr. Kent Mutchler, Superintendent.

Others present: LorriAnn Dowd, Patrick J. Murphy, Thomas Vlach, Kathy VanSpankeren, Richard Holinger, R. L. Cabeen, Judy Wehrmeister, Chris Bourdage, Russell Lefevre, Rick Nagel, Tina Gaetani.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

- 2.1 Special Session February 6, 2012
- 2.2 Executive Session February 6, 2012
- 2.3 Regular Session February 13, 2012
- 2.4 Executive Session February 13, 2012

A Board member requested that the minutes of Item 2.2 be voted on separately.

Motion by Nowak, second by Stith, to approve the minutes of Item 2.1, 2.3 and 2.4, as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Henry, McCormick, Moran, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

Motion by Moran, second by Nowak, to approve the minutes of Item 2.2, as presented. On roll call, Ayes, five (5), McCormick, Moran, Nowak, Stith, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Abstained, two (2), Wilson, Henry. Motion carried.

3. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS, BOARD REORGANIZATION

3.1 School Improvement Plan Update: Harrison Street Elementary School

The Superintendent thanked the principal and her staff for their work on the development and implementation of school improvement plans and goals for Harrison.

The Principal summarized the school improvement plans and goals, which focus on reading, problem solving and success for all students. Reading and language arts goals focus on activities which emphasize comprehension strategies, vocabulary development, genre of text. Achievement data is reviewed and monitored to address students' needs. Most of the reading and language arts activities occur during the 90 minute literacy block in shared whole group, guided small group, and individual work with students. To increase math skills, problem solving is being incorporated in all content areas. FASTMATH has been added to the curriculum and is currently being used as a computer lab activity in the classroom. Inservice in FASTMATH was provided to the whole staff and the next step will be to incorporate an intervention block for identified students before, during or after school. To address the goal for success for all students, universal behavior expectations have been identified and incorporated in common areas, a timeline for the implementation for the Second Step

curriculum has been identified. Second Step is a social/emotional learning curriculum that covers all grade levels and is based on the State's social emotional learning standards. An anti-bullying poster contest was held and twelve student posters were chosen for permanent display. With the changing demographics of the school a resource network has been created in collaboration with the school's Parent Teacher Organization (PTO) to help meet the needs of the school's students and families. Free family nights have also been implemented that bring families together and into the school to have fun. Future plans and goals include a data review cycle, the alignment of goals, universal language as it applies to education, and continuing to be responsive to the students and families at Harrison Street Elementary School.

Board discussion, comments, questions: at a recent workshop I attended, participants were very enthusiastic about the FASTMATH curriculum; it is important to see goals long-term; the types of services provided through the resource network and level of community involvement, whether the program was unique to Harrison (no), and it is a very good idea.

The President thanked Ms. Sims for the update.

4. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Superintendent commented on the following: the upcoming seventh-grade Partners' Day at Geneva Middle School North; parent conferences scheduled for Thursday afternoon, March 1st; and the Friday, March 2nd, Institute Day at which teachers and administrators will be participating in professional development activities offered through the Kane and DuPage County Regional Offices of Education, as well as VALEES (Valley Education for Employment System).

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The President reminded audience members that discussion of individual students or personnel matters is not permitted and comments should be limited to five minutes.

Comments included: disappointed with the Board's budget decision and their not using the funds recommended by the consultants to reduce the debt; the prejudice of the comments made by a board member at a previous meeting; a request for a copy of a DVD of board meetings at the same time it is provided to the City or Comcast - had contacted the IT Department to ask if the board meetings could be made available in a format that could be downloaded from the web site or in an MP3 format - we can do better than what is available at present (the Superintendent's Communications Task Force has been discussing this topic and is working toward a solution which will be presented to the full board at a future meeting) am willing to offer a free site where the meetings could be available until such time as the Board makes a decision.

6. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 Amend 2011-2012 Board Meeting Calendar

The President reported that the proposed amendment to the Board's meeting calendar would cancel the scheduled Friday evening, March 16, 2012, Board retreat meeting.

Motion by Wilson, second by McCormick, to approve the amended Board meeting calendar, as presented. On roll call, Ayes, six (6), Moran, Stith, Wilson, Henry, McCormick, Grosso. Nays, one (1), Nowak (she felt there would be much to be discuss on the agenda for the Board retreat). Motion carried.

6.2 Resolution Authorizing Land Cash Intergovernmental Agreement

6.3 Land Cash Intergovernmental Agreement: Kane County, IL / Geneva CUSD 304

6.4 Application for Disbursement of Land-Cash Funds

The Assistant Superintendent Business Services reported that she had been informed by Kane County that the District was entitled to land/cash contributions being held by the County in the amount of \$3,175.00 from the Eakins Farm Subdivision. In order for the County to disburse the funds, the District was required to adopt a resolution authorizing a land/cash intergovernmental agreement between the District and Kane County and approve the application for disbursement of land/cash funds.

Motion by Henry, second by Nowak, to approve Items 6.2, 6.3, and 6.4, as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Henry, McCormick, Moran, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

7. WORK-STUDY TOPICS & FUTURE ACTION CONSIDERATIONS

None.

8. INFORMATION

8.1 Suspension Report

8.2 Government Accounting Standards Board (GASB) Statement 54: Fund Balance Reporting & Governmental Fund Type Definitions

No discussion.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

9.1 Monthly Financial Reports & Interfund Transfers

9.2 Personnel Report: Resignations, Retirements, Leave Requests, Changes in Assignment/FTE, New Hires

Long-term Substitutes Certified

Doll, Pamela, GMSN, Social Worker, 1.0 FTE, Effective 2/21/12 to 6/4/12

Hoekstra, Katrina, GHS, Math, .60 FTE, Effective 2/21/12 to 4/2/12

New Hires Support

Read, Melissa, GHS, Security, 10 hrs/wk, 9 Month, Start Date 2/22/12

Koehn, Chris, GHS, Security, 15 hrs/wk, 9 Month, Start Date 2/28/12

9.3 Technology Purchase: Microsoft Enrollment for Education Solutions (EES) Licensing, \$27,562.50, Heartland Business Systems

Board discussion, comments, questions: where are relative to receipt of State funds (we received late payments in August and September - September's could not be accrued back to fiscal year 2010-2011 - we won't receive this year's first quarter payment until March); have we received any payment yet for our 2007 Capital Improvement Grant (no, the State just paid some 2005 Capital Improvement Grants in 2012); so the State is more than six years behind in payments (correct); if the State would pay the District the \$19 million they owe us, it could help us pay down debt on the construction projects it was intended for (correct).

Motion by Wilson, second by Stith, to approve Consent Agenda Items 9.1 through 9.3, as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Stith, Wilson, Henry, McCormick, Moran, Nowak, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION

Comments included: earlier an audience member requested that she be provided a copy of tonight's meeting at the same time it is provided to the City/Comcast - this isn't hard, YouTube is free - do I have to FOIA a copy (the Communications Task Force is addressing this topic and will be presenting a report to the Board at an upcoming meeting); can audience members make their own video of the meetings (yes, you can use your own equipment to video the meeting as long as it is not disruptive to the Board meetings - there is Board policy regarding public participation at meetings which includes information on video taping meetings); we should be able to get a copy of the DVD that is made using the equipment that my taxes paid for - could I tie in to the District's sound system (don't know if that would be possible); is there anything the Board can do to get the \$19 million that the State owes us from the grant (the State has over 300 school districts trying to get funding they are owed - community members can contact their legislators to let them know we would like to be paid); the Board or community could file a class action suit (filing a suit would incur expenses to the District - even if the suit were successful, where would the State get the money to pay it, the State can't pay their debts now to schools, hospitals, colleges, - Illinois' financial rating is a D or F - so the only way it can get more money is to raise taxes); it seems that there should be something we could do to get the money we are owed (the Board would love to have the State pay us what is owed but the District doesn't have the funds to pursue a law suit); want to backup the previous comments about getting a DVD of the Board meetings - you can't transcribe from the current format available to the community(as stated previously, the Board is looking at this issue).

11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Policy Committee, Financial Task Force, Facilities Task Force, Communication Task Force, Joint PTO, Geneva All-Sports Boosters, Geneva Music Boosters, Geneva High School Theater Boosters, Academic Foundation, GEARS, K-12 Discipline Committee, Geneva Coalition for Youth, PRIDE, REMS Grant

Board members commented on the following: Board Policy/Bylaw 0167.3, Section K, provides information on public participation at board meetings and the ability of audience members to video tape meetings - the Superintendent's Communications Task Force has been discussing the possibility of posting and archiving meetings on the web site and believe that we will be able to provide something that will be cost effective - the Communications Task Force is meeting this Thursday and

will be reporting on this topic to the full Board in the near future, so please bear with us); members attended workshops offered by the Illinois Association of School Boards where discussion focused on community engagement, which will be discussed at the Communications Task Force meeting and also at the Board retreat, Senate Bill 7 requirements, and Senate Bill 2073, which if passed would have disastrous consequences to Geneva's ability to pay down our debt - Board members were thanked for contacting Senator Lauzen and Representative Schmitz regarding SB2073; the Board is looking at either April 21 or April 28 for its spring forum; the Board has copies of the October 2012 forum on education funding that can be checked out by community members; members attended the Geneva High School Theater Boosters meeting, which focused on developing their bylaws, fund-raising, and the high school's spring musical on March 17; members attended the Harrison Street Elementary School PTO meeting - which provided an opportunity to see the high level of parent involvement in their school and in the education of their children; Western Avenue Elementary School has planned a tree planting fund-raiser on April 28; members attended the middle school's musical, Aladdin, which was very well done, a great performance, had a full pit orchestra made up of only middle school students, and was another opportunity to see the talents of our students.

12. NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER MATTERS PERTAINING TO PENDING LITIGATION [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)]; AND COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC BODY AND ITS EMPLOYEES OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)]

At 8:14 p.m., motion by Wilson, second by Henry, to go into executive session to consider matters pertaining to pending litigation and collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Wilson, Henry, McCormick, Moran, Nowak, Stith, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

The President noted that no action was anticipated following executive session.

At 8:25 p.m., following a break for the room to clear and for Board members and administrators to respond to questions from the audience, the Board moved into executive session.

At 9:00 p.m., motion by Stith, second by Henry, and with unanimous consent, the Board returned to open session.

14. ACTION POSSIBLE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

No action was taken.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:01 p.m., motion by Wilson, second by Henry, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED _____

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY _____

RECORDING
SECRETARY