

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, August 26, 2024, 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 Pam Cabeen and her sister Debbie led the Pledge of Allegiance.

District staff present: Adrian Ramirez, Assistant Director for Business Services; Adam Law, Assistant Superintendent for Personnel Services; Shonette Sims, Assistant Superintendent Learning & Teaching; Dr. Andy Barrett, Superintendent.

Others present: Brigid Buchman, Melanie Mannon, Colleen Carreiro, Kelli Borgie, Sarah Schafer, Monica O'Hara-Noonan, Stephanie Amore, Cathy Fuller, Jen Van Dyke, Tracy Kelsey, Beth Stevenson.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES (Policy 2:220)

1. Regular Session, August 12, 2024
2. Executive Session, August 12, 2024

Motion by Forbes second by Bellino, to approve the above-listed minutes, items 2.1-2.2. On roll call, Ayes, four (4), Ansari, Bellino, Forbes, Hooks. Nays, none (0). Absent, none (0). Abstained, three (3), Cabeen, Choi, Radlinski.

3. RECOGNITION, AWARDS, PRESENTATIONS, PUBLIC HEARINGS

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.*

Geneva parents once again shared their concerns regarding smart devices in school, asking for a policy that has consequences for students. They shared that middle school students are gathering to watch YouTube videos during the school day and that elementary students are bringing phones that they are using on the playground. The focus needs to be on learning, so we need to minimize distractions. Geneva parents also shared their concerns on the air quality in the contest gym at the

high school, which is not air conditioned. They are asking the district to investigate air conditioning or some other means of cooling this space. It is more of a safety issue than a comfort issue.

Board comments, questions, concerns: Dr. Barrett shared that he has talked to parents regarding the cell phone issue and stated there would be more conversations forthcoming. He acknowledged that the contest gym at the high school is hot and that the district is about to embark on a full facilities analysis, which has not been done in years. The air quality in the contest gym will be part of the analysis. The district did research the cost to air condition the gym and it would cost around \$2 million.

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 thanked the board for their support of the District's new mission and vision statement. The new vision is to "Achieve Excellence and Empower Students to Succeed."

He congratulated the board on receiving the School Board Governance Award this year. Only forty school boards across the state received this recognition for modeling effective practices, focusing on good governance and leadership skills, community engagement, and growing and developing professionally.

We are off to a good start with the new school year. Our school year started a bit later than our neighboring districts and there have been some logistical issues on which we will reflect. A new residency process was implemented, and we thank parents for their help with this. We have had positive feedback from staff on the three institute days we had prior to school starting. This eliminated having the Friday before Labor Day off.

We are waiting for Dr. Kofron before we present more on the Demographic Study, but his graph indicates that we will be trending up over the next several years with a snapshot that shows an enrollment of 5,225. However, there is a new development that could affect this number. The City of St. Charles has proposed a new development called the Charles Farm, which is in the northwest corner of Geneva. This project is nearly one thousand acres that would be developed in six phases. It would have 967 Del Webb homes, 846 single family homes and 198 townhomes near LaFox Center. Roughly 75% of this development would be in Geneva. The City of St. Charles will hold a Plan Commission meeting on September 4 and a Planning & Development Committee meeting on September 9. We are estimating that we could see between 500-700 students at build out, which would be in 2039. Our board has been asked to give an opinion on this development.

Board comments, questions, concerns: When would this start? (Around 2027.) Isn't there gravel north of Keslinger Road that is a rustic road or something? (Yes, there is a protected rustic road.) Does Geneva have any say in this outside of the school board? (No.) Would St. Charles be annexing the portion that is in Geneva? (Those homes would all have a St. Charles address.) Mill Creek is part of Geneva Township, so would this change? (No, Mill Creek would remain Geneva Township.) More information is needed based on what our current Demographic Study says. The positive with this development is that the Del Webb homes would not generate new students. What was the land cash aspect you mentioned? (The developer must give a certain amount of money or land to the school district, but Del Webb would not be part of that.) Did they say when we needed to submit our opinion? (They have the Plan Commission next week, so I will get some information out to you this week.) It is just an opinion, not a say, correct? (Correct.) Is the Plan Commission an open meeting? (Yes.)

7. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATION

8. WORK-STUDY TOPICS & FUTURE ACTION CONSIDERATION

9. INFORMATION

- 1. Board Meeting/Presentation Schedule (Policy 2:220)
- 2. FOIA Requests & Board Correspondence (Policy 2:250)
- 3. Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (Policy 2:20, 4:80)

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 Accounts Payable & P-card Transactions - July (Policy 4:40, 4:55)
- 3. Gifts, Grants, Bequests: \$4,500, Buttermilk (\$1,500), Nobel House (\$1,500), E. Ray Construction (\$1,500), for GHS athletics team supplies/uniforms/other needs (Policy 8:80)

Motion by Forbes second by Radlinski, to approve the above-listed, items 10.1-10.3. 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

Policy Committee, Finance Committee, Boundary Task Force, Communications Task Force, Facilities Task Force, Technology Task Force, Joint PTO, Geneva Academic Foundation, Geneva All-Sports Boosters, Geneva Music Boosters, Geneva High School Theater Boosters, GEARS, K-12 Discipline Committee, PRIDE, Fox Valley Career Center, IASB/Legislative, IASB Kishwaukee Governing Board

Board members shared that they are hearing the school year is off to a good start and welcomed back all staff, students, and families. They thanked the parents that came tonight to express their concerns and shared feedback. Thank you to Dr. Barrett for inviting the board to the kickoff last week. It was inspiring to see teachers stepping up to talk about someone who inspired them. The recognition that the board received shows that we all have done our part. Jackie Forbes was instrumental in completing the application. Congratulations to our Business Department on their "Certificate of Excellence" on the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report.

12. NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER MATTERS PERTAINING TO DISCUSSION OF MINUTES OF MEETINGS LAWFULLY CLOSED UNDER THE OPEN MEETINGS ACT, WHETHER FOR PURPOSES OF APPROVAL BY THE BODY OF THE MINUTES OR SEMI-ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE MINUTES AS MANDATED BY SECTION 2.06. [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)]. [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(11)] (Policy 2:220)

At 8:23 p.m., motion by Forbes, second by Hooks, to go into executive session to consider matters pertaining to discussion of minutes of meetings lawfully closed under the open meetings act, whether for purposes of approval by the body of the minutes or semi-annual review of the minutes as mandated by section 2.06.

At 8:34 p.m., the Board returned to open session.

14. ADJOURNMENT

At 8:35 p.m., motion by Cabeen second by Forbes and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED _____
(Date)

_____ PRESIDENT

SECRETARY _____

_____ RECORDING SECRETARY