

**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 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, Finance Committee Chair Bill Wilson.
Late: None. Absent: None.

The President welcomed everyone, led them in the Pledge and reminded them to sign the attendance record.

District administrators present: Doug Drexler, Associate Principal Geneva High School; Elizabeth Janowiak, Director Technology; 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: R.L. Cabeen, Lori Dowd, Wynn & Marilyn Church, Sandra Ellis, C. Rennoogle, Patrick J. Murphy, Ed Willer, Sandra Wolf, Angela Neri, Susannah Thomas, Jessie Egan, Rick Nagel (Patch), Chris Bourdage, Brenda Schory (K.C. Chronicle), Gail Ryan, Geneva Teachers (191 noted by GEA President Carol Young).

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS

The President reminded audience members that comments or discussion regarding individual students or personnel matters were not permitted and that individuals wishing to address the Board should come to the podium, use the microphone, and state their name and address as the meetings are video recorded.

Comments included:

Hope everyone has seen the recent Chicago Magazine. Everyone should be proud that Geneva Community High School was the only high school mentioned as the best in Kane County in the magazine's education edition and it has the least amount of per pupil spending. (Yes, many of the Board members saw the article.)

Thanks to the Board members for their service. Am a taxpayer, parent of two Geneva grads, a business owner, a Geneva teacher, and have served as the Vice President of the Geneva Teachers' Association and served on the last negotiations team, I'm speaking on behalf of all the teachers. The Education fund is healthy, use the surplus funds to work with the association to settle the negotiations. The teachers asked for only a small increase in the last contract. There is a \$30 million surplus in reserves and teachers should be compensated for their work. The District is performing well and has received many awards that couldn't have been achieved without the teachers. Highly-qualified teachers are the best way to continue the Tradition of Excellence but the compensation plan doesn't reflect their performance. If we were at the top in the private sector, we'd

be compensated accordingly. Don't let a small group of bullies harass you. Work together with the association to settle this.

Have been a GHS teacher for twelve years and am a resident of Geneva. All have worked together in the past to make the schools the best and it doesn't seem that quality is being lost to cost cutting.

Am a GHS teacher and resident of Geneva. Moved our family here three years ago for the schools. Concerned that we are starting the school year without a contract. There seems to be funds available for things like the new football field but things are not essential to education, teachers are. Spend the surplus funds on quality teachers.

Am a GHS teacher and Geneva resident. Am here as a teacher, parent, resident and taxpayer. Friends and neighbors are members of the school board. Geneva should be proud to have the quality of teachers we have. As a resident, am aware of the property tax burden but am here asking both sides to work together as soon as possible to try to find a way to solve this problem before we ask neighbors to side against neighbors. We owe it to the students.

3. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

3.1 Regular Session August 13, 2012

3.2 Executive Session August 13, 2012

Motion by McCormick, second by Nowak, to approve the above-listed minutes, as presented. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Henry, McCormick, Moran, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

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

None

5. SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

During the last two weeks, meetings were held with all staff members. All of the District's school were in good condition for the opening of the academic year. The Burgess Field renovations were completed and in use for the opening of school thanks to the anonymous donor and the Friends of Burgess Field whose generous support made the new turf field and expanded running lanes possible. The Superintendent thanked the Music and Theater Boosters for their contributions toward the high school auditorium seat replacement and the organizers of the annual Corn Boil, which was very well attended. Administrator training continues for the new State mandated teacher and principal evaluation process.

6. BOARD DIALOGUE TOPICS & PENDING ACTION CONSIDERATIONS

6.1 Board Policy Updates Second Reading:

6.1.1 2105, Mission of the District, Revised

6.1.2 2110, Statement of Philosophy, Revised

6.1.3 2120, School Improvement, Revised

6.1.4 2210, Curriculum Development, Revised

6.1.5 2220, Adoption of Courses of Study, Revised

6.1.6 2230, Course Frameworks, Revised

6.1.7 2231, Class Size, Revised

6.1.8 2240, Controversial Issues, Revised

6.1.9 2250, Innovative Programs, Revised

6.1.10 2260, Nondiscrimination and Access to Equal Educational Opportunity, Revised

6.1.11 2270, Religion in the Curriculum, Revised

6.1.12 2270.01, School Prayer, Revised

6.1.13 2330, Homework, Revised

6.1.14 2340, Field and Other District-sponsored Trips, Revised

6.1.15 2370, Educational Options, Revised

6.1.16 2410, Social and Emotional Development of Students, Revised

6.1.17 2411, Guidance & Counseling, Revised

- 6.1.18 2413.01, Physical Education Exemption, Revised
- 6.1.19 2431, Interscholastic Athletics
- 6.1.20 2431.01, Concussions & Head Injuries: Students, New
- 6.1.21 2431.02, Soccer Goal Safety Education, New
- 6.1.22 2460, Education of Children with Disabilities, Revised
- 6.1.23 2531, Copyrighted Works, Revised
- 6.1.24 7440, Plant Security, New

The Superintendent thanked his administrative staff and the Policy Committee members for their work. The Policy Committee Chair noted that a Board member suggested that the wording in Policy 2250, Subsection D, be changed from “budgeting” to “budget implications.” All other policies remain the same as the first reading.

Motion by Wilson, second by Moran, to adopt the above-listed policies, with the amendment to Policy 2250. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), McCormick, Moran, Nowak, Stith, Wilson, Henry, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

7. WORK-STUDY TOPICS & FUTURE ACTION CONSIDERATIONS

None

8. INFORMATION

- 8.1 FOIA Requests & Responses
 - 8.2 2012-2013 Board PTO Presentation Schedule
 - 8.3 Finance Committee Discussion Topic Schedule
 - 8.4 High School Summer School Report
- No discussion.

9. CONSENT AGENDA

- 9.1 Monthly Financial Reports and Interfund Transfers
- 9.2 Personnel Report: Resignations, Retirements, Leave Requests, Changes in Assignment/FTE, New Hires

New Hires Certified

Palazzetti, Angela, HSS, Art, .30 FTE, Start Date 8/20/2012

Resignations Certified

Skelton, Krista, HSS, Art, .30 FTE, Effective 8/17/2012

Reappointments Certified

Blaszynski, Toni, HES, Grade 4, 1.0 FTE, Effective 8/20/2012

Reclassifications Certified

Salesky, Jacqueline, WAS, Sp Ed Assistant 3 hrs/day to HES, Grade 2, 1.0 FTE, Effective 8/20/2012

Long-term Substitutes Certified

Hudnall, Mary, MCS, Grade 2, 1.0 FTE, Effective 8/20/2012 to 11/15/2012

Leavitt, Mary, GHS, Guidance Counselor, 1.0 FTE, Effective 8/25/2012 - 11/13/2012

MacDonald, Meredith, HES, Grade 5, 1.0 FTE, Effective 8/20/2012 - 11/20/2012

Carrington, Warren, Joanne, FS, .80 FTE, Special Education, Effective 8/20/2012 - 10/30/2012

New Hires Support

Anderson, Lindsay, GMSN, Bi-lingual Sp Ed Assistant, 7 hrs/day, 9 Month, Start Date 8/21/2012

Bergren, Jessica, GMSN, Sp Ed Assistant 7 hrs/day, 9 Month, Start Date 8/21/2012

Dutton, Jennifer, GMSS, Sp Ed Assistant 7 hrs/day, 9 Month, Start Date 8/21/2012

Eiss, Julie, MCS, Library Assistant, 10 hrs/week, 9 Month, Start Date 8/21/2012

Herrera, Nicholas, GHS, Sp Ed Assistant, 7 hrs/day, 9 Month, Start Date 8/21/2012

Hertel, Kathleen, GMSS, Reading Lab Assistant, 21.5 hrs/week, 9 Month, Start Date 8/21/2012

Mourek, Kathleen, WAS, Sp Ed Assistant, 3 hrs/day, 9 Month, Start Date 8/21/2012

Pokorny, Laurie, GHS, Sp Ed Assistant, 7 hrs/day, 9 Month, Start Date 8/21/2012

Powers, Jennifer, MCS, Kindergarten Assistant, 3 hrs/day, 9 Month, Start Date 8/21/2012

Moore, Timothy, GHS, Study Hall Supervisor, 9 Month, Start Date 8/24/2012

Martuzzo, Kristen, GMSN, Sp Ed Assistant, 7 hrs/day, 9 Month, Start Date 8/27/2012

Clement, Ronald, FES, Custodian 2nd Shift, 12 Month, Start Date 8/28/2012
Holstein, Chris, GMSS, Custodian 2nd Shift, 12 Month, Start Date 8/28/2012
Paulette, David, GHS, Security, 27 hrs/week, 9 Month, Start Date 8/28/2012
Rogers, Nathan, GMSS, Custodian 2nd Shift, 12 Month, Start Date 8/28/2012
Wehrmeister, Robb, GHS, Sp Ed Assistant, 7 hrs/day, 9 Month, Start Date 8/28/2012

Reappointments/Reclassifications Support

Dean, Richard, Transportation, Bus Driver, 9 Month

Neswold, Sharon, MCS, Classroom Assistant, 7.75 hrs/day to Kindergarten Assistant, 5.75 hrs/day, 9 Month

Long-term Substitutes Support

White, Jessica, GMSS, Sp Ed Assistant, 9 Month, Effective 8/21/2012 - 9/28/2012

Smith, Margaret, HSS, Sp Ed Assistant, 9 Month, Effective 8/21/2012 - 9/4/2012

9.3 Technology Purchase: Five-year Capital Outlay Plan, Phase 2, Geneva High School Wireless Network Upgrade, \$65,245.50, Opt2mized Networks, Inc.

It was requested that Item 9.2 be voted on separately.

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

Motion by Wilson, second by McCormick, to approve Consent Agenda Item 9.2, as presented. On roll call, Ayes, five (5), Nowak, Wilson, McCormick, Moran, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Abstained, two (2), Stith, Henry. Motion carried.

10. COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON BOARD OF EDUCATION ACTION

Comments included:

Are teachers allowed to wear green shirts and pins in the classroom? (Yes.) Are students 't allowed to wear message tee-shirts to school? (With limitations.) What is the point of wearing green tee-shirts in front of the students, who are the teachers trying to influence? There is a shortfall in the budget and teachers are asking for a raise.

As a taxpayer, can you tell me what the District's mission statement is? (A Board member read the mission statement, which is posted on the wall behind the Board members.) You need to have staff to do that.

Am appalled that the teachers are wearing these green tee-shirts in the classrooms. Teachers are wearing message shirts and buttons in the schools but our students are not allowed to do that. The teachers are here to teach and not wear union messages. Request that the Board adopt a policy that prohibits them from doing it. It's not right.

Have attended Board of Education meetings on a regular basis for years. Regarding the earlier comments by teachers about individuals bullying and harassing school board members, there has never been any bullying or harassment of individual school board members. Want to address other comments made earlier by teachers. Teachers performing well is an expectation. They said their base salary is lower but very few of Geneva's teachers are working at the base level. They said the Education Fund is healthy, but that is only due to over taxing the taxpayers. The debt service needs to be reduced. Where is that to come from? In the last teachers' contract, teacher got a 9% salary increase over three years. Other area school districts opened their contracts and teachers gave salary concessions but Geneva did not do that. Tonight's display by the teachers wasn't about the students, it is about salary and benefits. Don't know what has been offered or asked for. Why can't the teachers understand that this isn't 2009.

11. BOARD MEMBER COMMENTS AND REPORTS

Policy Committee, Finance Committee, 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 attended a Theater Boosters meeting. Theater Boosters is in its second year and they are still accepting contributions to help offset the costs of the high school auditorium seat replacement project. Board members were informed at an Illinois Association of School Boards' Board of Directors' meeting of new legislation impacting the dates for filing school board candidate nominating petitions and objections to candidate nominating petitions. The legislation requires that the District office be open to receive school board candidate nominating petitions until 5:00 p.m. on Christmas Eve, December 24th, and be open on New Year's Eve, January 31st, to receive objections to candidate nomination petitions, which will require compensation for a staff member. This is another example of unfunded mandates imposed by the state and it is important for community members to stay informed about what is happening in Springfield. Geneva High School's Back-to-School Night is scheduled for September 5th.

The Board President reported that the Board of Education is continuing to work in good faith with the teachers' association and trying to balance everyone's needs while being mindful of their responsibility to all District employees and to the taxpayers. While the Board had hoped to be farther along in the negotiation process, there are two sides at the table and it is going to take time to complete the process. Teachers will continue to receive a paycheck and the benefits to which they were entitled in the previous contract.

12. NOTICES / ANNOUNCEMENTS

None.

13. EXECUTIVE SESSION TO CONSIDER MATTERS PERTAINING TO COLLECTIVE NEGOTIATING MATTERS BETWEEN THE PUBLIC BODY AND ITS EMPLOYEES OR THEIR REPRESENTATIVES [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(2)]; AND THE APPOINTMENT, EMPLOYMENT, COMPENSATION, DISCIPLINE, PERFORMANCE, OR DISMISSAL OF SPECIFIC EMPLOYEES OF THE PUBLIC BODY [5 ILCS 120/2(c)(1)]

At 7:44 p.m., motion by Nowak, second by McCormick, to go into executive session to consider matters pertaining to collective negotiating matters between the public body and its employees or their representatives; and the appointment, employment, compensation, discipline, performance, or dismissal of specific employees of the public body. On roll call, Ayes, seven (7), Stith, Wilson, Henry, McCormick, Moran, Nowak, Grosso. Nays, none (0). Motion carried unanimously.

At 7:51 p.m., following a break for Board members to speak to members of the audience and for the room to clear, the Board moved into executive session.

At 9:10 p.m., motion by Wilson, second by Henry, and with unanimous consent, the Board returned to open session.

14. ACTION POSSIBLE FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION

None taken.

15. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:10 p.m., motion by Wilson, second by McCormick, and with unanimous consent, the meeting was adjourned.

APPROVED _____

PRESIDENT

SECRETARY _____

RECORDING
SECRETARY